H. R. FREEBORN, Gentlemen's Hosier, Glover, and Complete Outfitter,
TO ALL PARTS of the WORLD.—COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS, Cross St., and 2, VICTORIA ST. (late of the Arcade.)

Vol. IV.—No. 127. MANCHESTER, Saturday, JANUARY 14th. Price One Penny.

TEA,
THIS YEAR'S GROWTH,
VIA SUEZ CANAL,
AT
J. F. MART'S
Establishments,
OPPOSITE TOWN HALL, SALFORD
110, Borough Buildings, London Road;
AND
62, OLDHAM ROAD, MANCHESTER.
Congou .....2s. 2s. 4d. 2s. 6d.
Fine Pekoe-flavour, 2s. 8d.
Finest Imported, rich Pekoe-flavour, 3s. & 3s. 4d.
Choicest Gatherings—Rich full-flavoured Lapsong Souchong, 4s.

"THE PRESENT TIME."
A SPLENDID ASSORTMENT of NOVELTIES and ELEGANCIES, suitable for CHRISTMAS PRESENTS, NEW YEAR'S GIFTS, &c., at prices ranging from 6d. to £25
WORKBOXES, DESKS, DRESSING CASES, MUSICAL WORKCASES, MUSICAL ALBUMS, CARD CASES, BAGS, CIGAR CASES, PEARL, IVORY, and other Articles.
ENGLISH AND FOREIGN TOYS.

PRIZE MEDAL ROCKING HORSES,
And INDOOR GAMES.
New Illustrated List sent post free.
JOHN OWEN,
1, OLDHAM STREET, and at 80, DEANSGATE.

DAVIES'S
DAY HOTEL, AND RESTAURANT,
2, ROOK ST., YORK ST.,
OFF MOSLEY STREET.
DINING, LUNCHEON, AND SMOKING ROOMS, CHOICE WINES, LONDON STOUT, AND BURTON ALES.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
W. and M. DODGE, Watchmakers, Jewellers, and Silversmiths, 21, Market Place, Manchester, solicit the attention of intending Purchasers to their Extended and High-class STOCK, specially selected upon entering their New Premises.
Ten per Cent Discount from their usual plain-marked prices.

CHRISTMAS SOUVENIRS.
HENRY PIDDUCK, Goldsmith,
24, ST. ANN'S SQUARE.
A Large Variety of Novelties, suitable for Presents.
Suites of Fine Gold Bracelet, Brooch, and Earrings.
Suites of Fine Gold Necklets and Lockets.
Suites of Fine Gold Sleeve Links, Studs, and Collar Stud.
Finest Gold Victoria and Albert Chains.
Diamond, Gem, Signet, Guard, and Wedding Rings.
Superior and Fashionable Gold Watches, warranted.
Elegant Drawing-room and Dining-room Clocks, Bronzes, &c.
A Great Variety of Silver Electro-plated Goods and Cutlery.

BRANDY.

A very general impression prevails among the people of this country that Brandy is distilled by the Merchants abroad who ship it to this country, and whose names have in the popular mind become synonymous with the words, "Cognac Brandy."
A very short explanation will show how totally without foundation this impression is. Brandy is really made by the numerous large and small proprietors of vineyards around Cognac, in the Charente Inferieure, who in the first instance make their grapes into wine and as soon as the fermentation has ceased, set to work and distil the wine, the spirit from which is the fine Brandy of Commerce. Immediately after the distillation is completed, the Brandy is purchased in large quantities by the Cognac merchants, who ship it to the various markets for which they have orders. The farmers take their Brandy to market just as farmers here do their corn, and, as a rule, vie with each other in their endeavours to get a name for quality, and each acts on his judgment in selling, some selling at once, some preferring to hold over and sell it when old, and some doing both. A great quantity of each year's produce is purchased in this country and brought over at once, and kept in bond till such time as it is wanted for use. It is a mistake the public make to suppose that because Brandy is bottled in France, and bears this name or that, it is therefore better or older than what respectable merchants sell in England. That which comes in bottle is precisely the same quality of Brandy as that which comes in cask, and, as a rule, it is sent younger and costs more, owing to extra expenses, than what regular merchants in England put up themselves, as they keep it in bond till fully matured. We advise the public to place no confidence whatever on the mere putting up of the article in bottle in France, but to BUY VALUE and NOT NAME.
We can give the very Finest
OLD COGNAC BRANDY
at
52s. PER DOZEN,
26s. PER GALLON,
and confidently ask comparison with Case Brandy of any shipper at 60s. to 72s. per dozen.
For Cooking and Preserving purposes we can give a pure young French Brandy at
36s. PER DOZEN,
18s. PER GALLON.

James Smith & Company,
WINE MERCHANTS,
26, Market Street,
MANCHESTER.
LIVERPOOL: 11, LORD STREET.
BIRMINGHAM: 28, HIGH STREET.

THE
GLOBE PARCEL EXPRESS,
127A, MARKET STREET.
PARCELS AND PACKAGES FORWARDED DAILY TO ALL PARTS OF ENGLAND, SCOTLAND, IRELAND, AND THE CONTINENT OF EUROPE.
GOODS AND PARCELS FORWARDED PER MAIL AND OTHER STEAMERS OR SAILING VESSELS TO INDIA, CHINA, AUSTRALIA, UNITED STATES, CANADA, AND ALL OTHER PARTS OF THE WORLD.

CAVARGNA, COOK AND CONFECTIONER, Purveyor to their R.H. the Prince and Princess of Wales, to his Majesty the King of Italy, and H.R.H. Prince Eugenio of Carignano. A Series of Bills of Fare for Wedding Breakfasts, Banquets, Ball Supper Soirees, &c., can be had on application to Mr. Cavargna, and estimates for any number of guests at a few hours' notice, including the hire of silver plate, china, linen, epergnes, and every requisite. All punctually executed in every improvement of luxury that experience can suggest, on the most reasonable terms. J. CAVARGNA.

J. CAVARGNA,
CONFECTIONER,
93, UPPER BROOK STREET,
AND
99 & 101, OXFORD STREET,
MANCHESTER.

MAGIC LANTERNS and SLIDES,
of Every Description,
FOR SALE OR ON HIRE,
Including all This Season's Novelties. Catalogues, post free, 2d.
THOMAS ARMSTRONG and BROTHER,
Opticians and Spectacle Manufacturers to the Royal Eye Hospital,
88, DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER.

WEDDING CAKES, plain or richly ornamented, always in stock, and ready for immediate use, at ISAAC MAYER'S, the old-established Confectioner, 105, Oldham-street, Manchester. Pure Calves' Feet Jelly, prepared expressly for invalids, always on hand. Tea, Coffee, and Luncheon Rooms. Foreign and British Wines, Ale, Porter, Sandwiches, &c., 105, Oldham-street.

ESTABLISHED 110 YEARS.
KENT'S CELEBRATED WATCHES,
70, DEANSGATE.

HYDE & SHELDRICK, { SPECIALITIES IN OVERCOATS 20s. to 40s. } 72, OLDHAM STREET, Manchester.

FURS.

REAL SABLE MUFFS, ONE GUINEA.

REAL SABLE COLLARS, ONE GUINEA.

RUSSIAN FUR SEAL JACKETS, SIX GUINEAS.

KENDAL MILNE & CO., have ready the LARGEST, CHEAPEST and BEST-ASSORTED STOCK of FURS they have ever submitted.

A Large Assortment of Fashionable FUR TRIMMINGS in Sets, for Mantles and Jackets.

FUR CARRIAGE RUGS, IN GREAT VARIETY.

DEANSGATE, POLICE-STREET, and ST. ANN'S ST.

JAMES THORNTON, Jun.,
WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANT,
103, STOCKPORT ROAD (Opposite Shakespere-street), having recently commenced business on his own account, respectfully solicits the support of his neighbourhood. For many years connected with a leading family house in the county, of over one hundred years' standing, and **buying everything direct from the producer**, he is in a position to enter into an honourable competition with the leading houses in town.

If therefore, the neighbouring gentry would kindly favour him with one trial, he trusts they will never have occasion to regret the encouragement thus given to a young beginner.

SPECIALITIES.

Finest Imported Marsala.....20s. per doz.
Dinner Wine, guaranteed a pure Sherry ..30s. per doz.
Irish and Scotch Whiskies.....18s. and 21s. per gal.

HETHERINGTON'S COUGH LOZENGES.
The best and safest remedy for coughs; relieves the difficulty of breathing in Asthma. To be had from most respectable chemists and confectioners, in 3d. and 6d. boxes; or, direct from he depot.—HETHERINGTON, wholesale confectioner, 18, Lower Mosley Street, Manchester.—7lb. parcels carriage paid o any part of the kingdom.

JUST ARRIVED FROM PARIS, viâ Belgium, a Large Consignment of FRENCH CLOTHES, in various colours. Will be sold 30 per cent below the market price, by CHAMBERS & CO., Army and Navy Clothiers, 24 and 25, Old Millgate, Manchester.

COOKE'S

ROYAL CAMBRIDGE SAUSAGE HOUSE,

13A, OXFORD STREET, MANCHESTER,

Nearly opposite, and to the right of the Prince's Theatre.

SAUSAGE AND MASHED POTATOES
4d.
ALWAYS READY.

Served in the London style, and in half a minute from the time of ordering.
Allsopp's Mild and Bitter Ales, Combe and Co's London Stout. Wines, Cigars, Tea, Coffee, &c.

WAR VICTIMS' FUND
OF THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS,
for the Relief of the
PEASANTRY and other NON-COMBATANT SUFFERERS in the districts of France and Germany ravaged by the War.

Thousands of our FELLOW-CREATURES IN NORTH-EASTERN FRANCE, MEN, WOMEN, AND CHILDREN,
are now
STARVING FROM COLD AND HUNGER,
Being houseless, without fuel, and only half-clad.

There are now more than twelve unpaid agents actively engaged in the distribution of this fund in these distressed districts, and it is that their efforts may continue to be exerted that we appeal to our fellow-citizens for largely-extended support.

Total amount of Subscriptions reported to the Central Committee in London, £20,000.
Received by the Manchester Committee, £1,080.
Manchester Committee.
Charles Thompson, J.P.
John King, Alderman.
James Hodgkinson, Monton Grange, near Eccles.
Josiah Merrick, Whalley Range.
Henry Thorp, Chatham Mills, Lower Ormond Street.
Thomas B. King, Chepstow Street, Oxford Street.
Walter Morris, 68, Fountain Street.
Alfred Simpson, 49, Major Street.
John B. Edmondson, Knowsley Street, Cheetham.
George Rooke, Moorside, Sale.
Godfrey Woodhead, 28, Victoria Street.
John Mason (Carver and Co.), Mosley Street.
JOHN HODGSON, 51, Piccadilly, } Secs.
WILLIAM BRADSHAW, Eccles New Road, }

Subscriptions will be received by the Secretaries; any of the Committee; or at the King Street Branch of the District Bank. Contributions of new clothing or goods in the piece may be sent to 51, Piccadilly.

ROYAL POMONA GARDENS.

BAND

EVERY MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, AND SATURDAY

Admission, Sixpence each.

NEW ICE FOR SKATING EVERY MORNING.

DURING THE FROST.

DEPILATORY.

WELLS' DEPILATORY is the only *effectual* remedy for the immediate and permanent removal of superfluous hair from the face, arms, neck, &c. This preparation effects its purpose almost instantaneously, without pain or injury to the most sensitive skin. Full particulars on receipt of a stamped directed envelope. JOHN WELLS, 113, Euston-street, near Hampstead-road, London. N.B.—Hundreds of testimonials have been received from the nobility and ladies of rank who have tried this marvellous remedy.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—CATHOLIC ART REPOSITORY, 94, OLDHAM STREET, three doors from Great Ancoats Street—Christmas, New Year, and Birth-day CARDS and PRESENTS. A splendid selection of Christmas Books, Paintings, Ivory, &c., Carvings. Wholesale and retail.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS

AND PILLS.

Rheumatism, Neuralgia.—It is sometimes difficult to determine which of these diseases is afflicting the sufferer, but such uncertainty will be immaterial if Holloway's remedies be used. They alleviate and cure all muscular and nervous pains. In hereditary rheumatism, after bathing the affected parts with warm salt water, Holloway's Ointment should be well rubbed upon the spot, that it may penetrate and exert its soothing and regulating properties on the deeper vessels and nerves which being unduly excited, cause both pain and swelling. Holloway's treatment has the merit of removing the disease without debilitating the constitution, which was the inevitable result of the bleeding, mercury, and colchicum practice formerly adopted in these complaints.

BROWN'S COTTON GLANCE.—The above Circular is published every Monday, and may be had of the Author at a charge of Two-and-a-Half Guineas per annum, payable half-yearly in advance W. L. BROWN,
27, Fitzclarence Street, Liverpool.

ESTABLISHED, 1847.

FURS, WHOLESALE & RETAIL.—F. SCHMEHL, Fur Manufactnrer, 9, St. Ann Street, and 133, Oxford Street.

FUR, SEAL, and ASTRACAN JACKETS, Fur Trimmings, Fur Hearth and Carriage Rugs, Buffalo Robes, &c.

THE QUEEN'S
BUILDING AND INVESTMENT
SOCIETY.

HEAD OFFICES: 95, BRIDGE ST., MANCHESTER.

Annual Income, nearly £400,000. Amounts received at five per cent interest.

Amounts not exceeding £50 repaid upon demand.

Advances promptly made upon Freehold and Leasehold securities.

Reports, Prospectuses, &c., upon application at the Offices.

Just published, price One Shilling,

HOME TRADE CUTTING; its Causes and Effects: a Review together with the whole of the Letters bearing upon the topic which appeared in the *Manchester Courier*.
Manchester: THOS. SOWLER & SONS, and all Booksellers.

MUSIC

FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS
AND NEW YEAR'S GIFTS.

H. WATSON & CO.,
25, MARKET PLACE (near the Royal Exchange), MANCHESTER.

WE ARE NOW
SELLING THE NEW SEASON'S TEA

At our TEA ESTABLISHMENTS, at the

Corner of OLDHAM STREET and SWAN STREET, and at 53, PICCADILLY, MANCHESTER,

AS UNDER:—

Our Tea at 2s. per lb. is giving great satisfaction.
The Tea at half-a-crown is quite a favourite.
The Popular Tea for heavy consumption is the one at 3s.
Those Teas at 3s. 4d. and 3s. 6d. are very fine flavoured.

Our Best Black Tea at 4s. is especially selected for our trade.

WM. SATTERTHWAITE, TEA MERCHANT.

THE GREAT ANNUAL SALE

AT BRITANNIA HOUSE,

RICHARD BATEMAN'S,

18 AND 20, OLDHAM STREET,

AND

DALE STREET, MANCHESTER,

WHICH IS NOW TAKING PLACE.

Public attention is respectfully directed to this important ANNUAL SALE, and to the advantages it offers.

We have much pleasure in announcing that we have recently opened a Department for Household Linens and General Drapery jointly with the Fancy Trade, and we especially desire to attract notice to this new feature in our business, as the Stock, in addition to all the standard makes, contains numerous

LOTS OF DOMESTIC DRAPERY AT REMARKABLE PRICES.

The Managers of our several Departments have been for some time past actively engaged in the endeavour to purchase for this SALE

FIRST-CLASS GOODS UNDER VALUE,

and owing to the continuance of the war and other causes they have been most successful.

We would here refer to the fact that the utmost efforts have ever been used to place before our patrons the

BEST PRODUCTS OF BRITISH AND FOREIGN MANUFACTURE,

and that articles of an inferior quality never form part of the Stock at Britannia House.

Rich Silks, Shawls, Mantles, Millinery, Bonnets, Hats, Trimmed Robes, Costumes, Fancy Dresses, Furs, Household Linens, and General Drapery, &c., &c.

THE GREAT ANNUAL SALE

AT

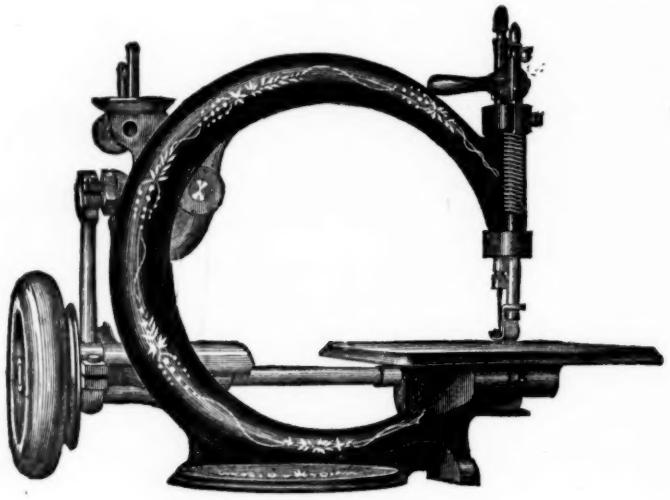
RICHARD BATEMAN'S,

18 AND 20, OLDHAM STREET, AND DALE STREET,

MANCHESTER.

A. LAFOSSE, ART PHOTOGRAPHER, has the Largest Studio in England. 32, VICTORIA STREET.

THE CORPORATION RESTAURANT AND DAY HOTEL, 18, CORPORATION STREET.
MRS. WHITAKER, PROPRIETRESS. MRS. MONDAY, MANAGERESS.



THE PRICE OF THE

WILLCOX & GIBBS'

SILENT

SEWING MACHINE

HAS BEEN

REDUCED TO

£6. 6s.

16, CROSS ST., MANCHESTER.

G. R. ALLINSON, General Manchester Warehouse) Families Supplied. Any length cut from the Piece at Wholesale Prices. (54 and 54a, HIGH STREET, and 13, CHURCH STREET

[LANCASHIRE WORTHIES.]

THE FIRST SIR ROBERT PEEL.

THE first Sir Robert Peel, and father of the statesman, was in several respects a remarkable man, whose merits would be much better known and appreciated, had not his career been eclipsed by that of his celebrated son. He was the third son of the Robert Peel of whom, as the founder of the Peel family, a sketch has already appeared in this series of Lancashire Worthies, and he was born at Blackburn in 1750. Very little of his early biography is known or has been chronicled. That little is to be found in a memoir of him which appeared in the volume of *Public Characters* for 1803-4, a rather inflated composition, but containing some information about him which is nowhere else to be discovered. In this performance it is loftily recorded that "very early in life, and while fortune appeared to shut the door of advancement against him, Sir Robert Peel entertained strong hopes of being the founder of a family, and at the age of fourteen, to the great entertainment of his brothers, he avowed his determination to raise himself to rank and consequence in society." According to the same far from high but still unique authority: "The contemporaries of his youth are unanimous in their testimony that he discovered a precocious attachment to books, and an insatiable thirst of knowledge. In his early, as well as his more mature years, even when his commercial concerns were most urgent, he rarely omitted to devote some part of every day to reading. The hours that others dissipated under pretence of recreation were employed by him in books, and the midnight lamp incessantly witnessed the patient labour with which he cultivated his intellectual faculties."

There is a pretty uniform tradition that, at eighteen or so, he grew tired of the parental roof in Fish Lane, Blackburn, or of the slender prospect of "getting on" presented to a third among so many sons, all engaged in the same business. He told his father, the story runs, that in Blackburn they were "too thick upon the ground," and asked for £500 with which to go out into the world, and see what he could do for himself. The request was refused; but the ambitious youth did not long remain with his father and his brothers. The original Blackburn firm had, it would appear—for there is a good deal of indistinctness and even confusion in the early history of the Peel family—originally consisted of old Peel, his brother-in-law Haworth, and Yates, a son of the landlady of the Black Bull Inn, at Blackburn. After a time, Haworth and Yates seem to have left their partner, and to have established themselves as a separate firm at Bury. Room was made by Haworth in the business of the Bury firm for his Blackburn nephew, and Yates may have welcomed the young Robert Peel all the more cheerfully that he found in the new arrival a boarder who paid him, no doubt with the utmost regularity, the magnificent sum of eight shillings a week. The young Peel found in his new home more than board and lodging.

It would appear from a comparison of dates that early in the course of his stay in Yates's house, his landlord had a daughter, Ellen Ann, whom the lodger thus knew almost from her cradle, and of whom he became very fond. According to a tradition, which one would wish to be true, he used to take her on his knee when she had grown to be an engaging little girl just old enough to have a glimmering sense of what was meant. "Nelly," so the dialogue between the two is reported, "Nelly, thou bonny little dear, wilta be my wife?" "Yes," was the small maiden's reply. "Then I'll wait for thee, Nelly," came the gallant rejoinder; "I'll wed thee, and none else." He did wait, probably as long as Jacob for Rachel, but not longer than was absolutely required by the difference in their ages. Nelly Yates was a handsome girl of 17 when she was married to Robert Peel. He was then a man of 37, and had worked hard and prospered exceedingly in the interval between his migration from Blackburn and his marriage to the young lady who on his arrival at Bury had not made her appearance in the world.

1770 is the year in or about which the first Sir Robert Peel is generally said to have joined in some superior capacity the business of Haworth and Yates. It was the year in which Hargreaves took out the patent for his spinning-jenny, and it was the year after that in which Arkwright enrolled the specification of his still more memorable first patent. Cotton-spinning, as we understand it, was therefore in its infancy, and as already mentioned in the sketch of the Founder of the Peel family, it was only a few years before that (by the Claytons, at Bamber Bridge, near Preston), calico-printing had been introduced on a small scale into Lancashire. When Robert Peel removed from Blackburn to lend his energies to the firm of Haworth and Yates, his uncle and his afterwards father-in-law, the cotton-trade of Lancashire was just about to take the marvellous stride which has made our county one of the wealthiest and most populous in Great Britain; and it presented an "opening" such as has seldom been since for skill and industry, in conjunction with average good-luck. Haworth and Yates seem to have been cotton manufacturers when Peel first went to them, but two or three years afterwards they added calico-printing to their other operations. Before long theirs was one of the most thriving businesses in Lancashire, thanks chiefly to their new assistant, who soon became, if he was not from the first, a partner in the firm. He had learned from his father something about calico-printing and the profits to be made in it. In our sketch of the founder of the Peel family, enough has been said to explain how fortunes could then be made in calico-printing—and his son seized the opportunity. To spinning mills with new machinery were added chemical works, bleaching grounds, and all the appurtenances necessary for calico-printing, until the original few wooden sheds of Bury Ground, as it was called, had grown into a little town. With Haworth's withdrawal from the firm, about the time, probably, when Robert Peel entered in, Yates left the chief charge to the junior partner. "To every remonstrance," says Sir Laurence Peel, "which the innovations of young Robert Peel excited among the younger hands, Mr. Yates used to give invariably this one answer, 'the will of our Robert is law here.'" And well, according to the same excellent authority, did "our Robert" repay the trust reposed in him. "For many a day, his life was one of hard incessant labour. He would rise at night from his bed, when there was a likelihood of bad weather, to visit the bleaching grounds; and one night in each week he used to sit up all night, attended by his pattern-drawer, to receive any new patterns which the London coach, arriving at midnight, might bring down; for at first they were followers and imitators of the London work. But they soon aspired to lead their masters, and it was apparent to the Londoners themselves that their trade would desert them, and flow into these new channels." Their earlier patterns are said to have been rather stiff, according to our modern notions. But for one description of work alone they had a regular demand of 20,000 pieces yearly, and the profit was a guinea on each.

With the expansion of cotton-spinning, produced by the successive discoveries of Hargreaves, Arkwright, and Crompton, and of calico-printing, with the substitution of cylinder for block-printing, the demand for labour, especially for juvenile labour, shot far ahead of the natural supply of the district. The industry of Lancashire could not be supported by its own population, and that of other parts of the country was put under requisition to supply the deficiency. The administrators of the poor-law throughout the kingdom hailed with joy this opportunity of ridding themselves and the rates of the burden of pauper children; and from the workhouses of London, as elsewhere, there set in a steady stream of covered waggons freighted with children destined for the new labour-field opened up in Lancashire by the development of the cotton trade. Such was the demand that a London parish is said to have forced on a Lancashire manufacturer the agreement that with every twenty sound workhouse children he should take one idiot!

In 1801 Peel received a baronetcy. He owed it to Pitt, of whom he was an enthusiastic admirer, and whom he had warmly supported in the House of Commons. "The House"—after having purchased large estates in Staffordshire, among them the famous manor of Drayton—he entered in 1790 as member for Tamworth; and he retained this seat for thirty years in seven successive parliaments. Sir Robert Peel loved

Pitt not only as a war minister, but as the promoter of the commercial interest of the country, which he once declared in the House of Commons "no other minister has ever understood so well." In 1797, he subscribed £10,000 to the voluntary contributions towards the support of Pitt's war with France, and raised among his own work-people a corps of volunteers, six companies strong, of which he became the lieutenant-colonel commandant. In the debate on the Union with Ireland in 1799 he supported the Minister's plans for a union with Ireland in a vigorous speech, setting forth the commercial advantages which would result to the poorer country from a union with the richer, and his remarks produced such an effect that the Government thought them worthy of a separate circulation in Ireland. Probably it was this service, capping all the others, that led Pitt to make him a baronet soon afterwards. With the Minister, whom he hoped that one of his sons would live to imitate, he disagreed on only one subject—the Slave Trade. But if he troubled himself little about the extradition of the inhabitants of Borrioboola Gha, he was the first to propose to Parliament enactments to mitigate the evils of the factory system which had grown up under his eye. Later and more successful efforts in this department of legislation have thrown into the shade those of the first Sir Robert Peel, but it was he who sowed the seed of which the fruit is now to be seen everywhere around us. Comparatively small as was his success in the face of the antagonism and inertion which obstructed him, it was greater than could have been achieved by any other than one who was himself a successful manufacturer, a large employer of labour, and whose motives, therefore, were not to be impeached by the fiercest opponent of his beneficent efforts. He began in 1802 by introducing into the House of Commons a bill to "Ameliorate the Condition of Apprentices in the Cotton and Woollen Trade." As regards the limitation of the hours of labour prescribed in it, this was what would now be called a twelve hours bill; but more important than any restriction of that kind imposed by it were the detailed provisions which it contained for compelling the master to attend to the health and housing, the education, secular and religious, and even to the clothing, of his apprentices. The bill was passed into an Act in the session of its introduction, but before very long it became a dead letter. The apprenticeship system in the cotton trade was rapidly disappearing. Population in Lancashire was growing more adequate to meet the demands of the market, and instead of importing and apprenticing pauper children, the manufacturers could avail themselves of the labour of children born in the district, and without recourse to the old apprenticeship system. The very passing of Sir Robert Peel's act doubtless hastened the disappearance of apprenticeship as a status which imposed stringent obligations on the employer; and a few years later it was found that the labour of children in factories was entirely unprotected by law. Towards the close of 1815, accordingly, Sir Robert Peel introduced for the protection of all young persons employed in factories, and without any reference to apprenticeship, a ten hours bill, among the provisions of which was one prohibiting the labour of children under ten. In the following year his proposals were referred to a select committee, and shelved for a time. In 1817 Sir Robert seems to have been prevented by illness from attending Parliament. In 1818, however, he introduced, as a compromise, and in order to conciliate his opponents, an eleven hours bill, which, after it had reached the Lords, was lost through the prorogation of Parliament. At last, in 1819, he carried through both Houses of Parliament a bill to regulate the hours of labour in factories; but the House of Commons would not tolerate even the measure of the preceding year, and a twelve hours bill was all that Sir Robert Peel could wring from the Lower House. The question slept until 1833, when the agitation of it was resumed, and continued with the well-known result; but after so long an interval the paternity of factory legislation of any kind was well-nigh forgotten. The new Ten hours Bill agitation was, moreover, conducted under circumstances unfavourable to any vivid perception of a connection between the movement and the name of Peel. It was steadily opposed by the first Sir Robert Peel's celebrated son, who had, meanwhile, risen to fill some of the highest offices in the State. In the history of another question the remembrance of the parliamentary conduct of the first Sir Robert Peel has been likewise almost obliterated by the conspicuous policy of the second. But it was only towards the close of his political career that the second Sir Robert Peel opposed and abrogated those Corn Laws, the principle of which seems to have been steadily combatted by his father during the whole of *his* parliamentary life.

To the education and training of this celebrated son the first Sir Robert devoted himself with rare assiduity. As he once told the House of Commons when he and the second Sir Robert took different courses on the currency question, he had from an early period hoped to "present" his son "to his country to follow in the same path" trodden by that William Pitt whom the enthusiastic old gentleman declared on the occasion to be "the man of all the world the most to be admired and the most to be imitated." "When the second Sir Robert was a very little fellow," says Sir Laurence Peel, "his father would sometimes playfully lift him on to a little round table which stood by the breakfast table, and would hear from the 'tribune' the recitation of some juvenile lesson. No sounds pleased the father so well from his boy's lips, as those which showed that the work was going on."

And again, according to the same authority, "at a maturer age, at about twelve years, the boy was accustomed to repeat each Sunday to his father, commonly in the study, all that he could remember of the sermon, and occasionally a guest at the dinner-table, some member of the family, or intimate friend, was permitted to hear that which was more generally repeated to his father alone. He was taught not merely to repeat the discourse, but to give the substance of it in his own words, was encouraged to ask questions, and to obtain a solution of any difficulties which the subject might have presented." This was the domestic contribution to the manufacture of a second William Pitt; Harrow and Oxford, and the industry of the pains-taking young gentleman himself, did the rest. The younger Robert Peel had been ten years in Parliament, had filled the office of Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and of Chief Secretary for Ireland, and he was member for the University of Oxford to boot, when in 1819 he gave his fond father a shock by introducing his well-known Currency Bill. The old gentleman cherished a firm faith, more fashionable then and since than now, in the virtues of an unconvertible paper currency, against which his son's ever-famous bill was directed, and he had, even in much earlier life, written a queer pamphlet to prove (in the zeal of his Toryism) that the National Debt itself is a national blessing. It was on the occasion of the son's introduction of the bill that he made the speech already quoted from, regretting the necessity for differing from a "very near and dear relative," and winding up with the declaration:—"I will only say further of him, that though he is deviating from the proper path in this instance, his head and heart are in the right place, and I think they will soon recall him to the right way" of viewing the currency question!

Old Sir Robert was now bordering on seventy, and this little disagreement with his son probably, too, contributed, as well as age, to his withdrawal from the House of Commons soon after its occurrence. He had for some time previously abandoned the management of his business to his other sons, and he spent the ten last years of his life in opulent retirement, at Drayton. Here it was that on his seventy-eighth birthday, in 1828, he gathered fifty children and grandchildren around him, and he presented each with a medal as a memorial of the patriarchal festivity. He died on the 30th of May, 1830. "A few days before his death," says Sir Laurence Peel, "feeling himself more than usually alert, he invited three of his nephews to dine with him. At dinner he asked if the champagne was good, and being told that it was, he drank a glass of it. The wine raised his spirits, and he conversed with much animation about past times. After dinner they played at whist, and after a rubber or two, Mr. Willock, perceiving that his uncle's hand shook a little as he dealt the cards, offered to deal for him. 'No, no, Robert,' he said, 'If I cannot deal my own cards, it is time to give up the game,' and with this characteristic speech he broke up the rubber. He survived but a few days." At his death he must have been one of the richest commoners in England, and he may have often before it looked back complacently to the days when he boarded with his father-in-law for twelve shillings a week. His personal property was sworn at what is technically called "upwards value," which means that it exceeded £900,000, and was the first instance of a scale of duties extending to such a sum. The probate stamp was fifteen hundred pounds, and the legacy duty amounted to about six thousand pounds more.

In person, the first Sir Robert Peel is described by his panegyrist

Public Characters) as "tall, manly, and well-proportioned." His nephew speaks of him as "grave in exterior, yet a humorous man, with a quiet relish of fun." The old anonymous panegyrist, already referred to, records of him a rather unexpected trait, of which there is no mention anywhere else: "Colloquial discussions on the phenomena of nature," the public of 1803-4 was informed, "constituted his chief delight; and to an early habit of abstracting and generalizing his ideas he unites the curiosity of a naturalist and the eye of an acute observer." All accounts agree as to the combination which he presented of kind-heartedness with long-headedness, his munificence, private no less than public, his large and judicious, his delicate and unobtrusive, charity. It was with an eye to business, no doubt, that he offered a lucrative partnership to Samuel Crompton; but there was nothing interested in the zeal with which, long after the distrustful Crompton had sullenly repelled all his overtures, he exerted himself to procure a suitable national reward for the ill-fated inventor of the spinning-mule. Were it only that he, an opulent manufacturer, was the first man to propose and to carry feasible and beneficent measures for the improvement of the condition of factory children, his memory deserves to be held in honour. What he did to make a statesman of his son has been already hinted; and certainly few famous men have had more reason than the second Sir Robert Peel to feel the proverbial thankfulness for the fact that he had "a father before him."

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH.

A GLIMPSE OF ITS INNER HISTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SPHINX.

SIR,—Though I have no wish to take part in a controversy carried on under anonymous signatures, wherein statements may creep, and charges be made, both reckless and untruthful, you will perhaps allow me to reply to the letter signed "A Real Chorister."

I did object to the candles being lighted; first, because of the written promise to the Bishop as to a "conformity as near as possible to the Cathedral model;" and next, although the judge of the Court of Arches had decided they were legal in the Church of England, and no notice of appeal had been given, because the case and decision having occurred within the Province of Canterbury his verdict had no force or authority within the Province of York. The Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, after a sermon wherein he tried to show the antiquity, symbolism, and lawfulness of altar lights, and declaring that henceforth they would be lighted at the mid-day celebration of Holy Communion, lit them himself, and afterwards requested me to place that among my other duties, which I performed for a month, and so that it might not get into too demonstrative hands I, with his consent, transferred the lighting to the chorister who performed the duty until the late Bishop interposed to stop that piece of Ritual. I refer to appointing him as rebutting the charge of aiding "acrobatism," for my reasons for nominating him were because he would do it "quietly and reverently, and without any absurd display." If a Real Chorister has had his position at St. Alban's for a few years he must have known how and to what extent I kept the "acrobats" from performing any duties in the sight of the congregation, and also how strongly they have urged this as a complaint against me.

As to his charge of popery, he must also be well aware that from Epiphany, 1865, down to Whit Sunday, 1870, I have been taunted with being a "Protestant," and more than once was told that I was not advanced enough for St. Alban's. Instead of having "Romeward leanings, I have been accused by the "perverts" from St. Alban's of hindering others from their best interests, *i.e.*, leaving the church of their baptism and training, as the verts had done, to become members of a communion that will always be adding to its "Faith and Duty" until the end of time. The charge of having been "the means of one member joining St. Chad's" is false. The assertion that "he and his family would not have become Romanists but for me" is a wicked and wilful perversion of facts. No one will more indignantly deny the charge than the person referred to.

Certainly I was for about six months a member of the Manchester Branch of the Third Order O.S.B., and for two months sub-prior under the Rev. Father Nihill, curate of St. Alban's, and what my clergyman belonged to could not be very improper for me. It was but an association of laymen for prayer and church work. I did spend a few days in the Guest's House of the so-called Norwich Monastery, while on the way to Yarmouth and Lowestoft for holidays, but not then belonging to the order in any way, I was not allowed to set a foot in the monastery. Nor was I the only one that went there at various times. Others from St. Alban's, including some from whom a Real Chorister has obtained his information, have been and enjoyed themselves there. But I did not wear a "monk's dress." I went about in my ordinary dress, as I did and do in Manchester; and whenever I had to do otherwise, I put on a cassock from St. Alban's Vestry.

I never "assisted at a Popish service for the dead," and I did not know the Benedictines when they held the service referred to. "I never performed Popish services at a house in Ancoats." The weekly services we held in our oratory there were said by myself and others from a copy of a manuscript Prayer Book compiled by the Revs. J. L. Lyne and H. D. Nihill, and though founded on the Benedictine Breviary, we were assured all was perfectly proper and catholic. The books used by the congregation were the Book of Common Prayer and Hymns Ancient and Modern. True it is that the services contained the versicle referred to, and others akin to it, but it was these very sentences which, when I found I could not change the services, led me to that reasoning and to seek that advice which ultimately caused suspension of their meetings and me to resign all connection with the Order. I never took any member of St. Alban's nor any one else to see the then existing portion of the Monastery at Gorton." In Whit-week, 1865, being strongly urged by the person referred to, to go with him that he might (I afterwards learned) have a covering for his going and taking a much younger person who had had some difficulty in procuring parental consent unless I also went, I made one of the party; but if visiting that marvellous production of a few poor foreigners is the crime a Real Chorister would make out, then many of St. Alban's people and other churchmen in Manchester have frequently offended.

I did, along with a dozen others from St. Alban's choir (our proceeding being allowed by the clergy at St. Alban's), assist at a service in the Corn Exchange; but I did not wear a monk's dress, cotta, and rosary. Along with the others from the choir, I had a cassock and surplice from St. Alban's. I have given "rosaries to several members of St. Alban's," and should do so again if asked by the same people and for like purposes. A Romanist would be much grieved to see the trinket A Real Chorister calls a rosary put to the purposes those I gave were.

With regard to my authorization from the Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, let it speak for itself as to who comes under it. It says, "All workers and work having duties and location within the chancel, vestry, north chapel, and basement story of the tower." The date upon which the authority was verbally and publicly conferred was April 3rd, and the document is dated Easter, 1870. The curates came, one in May, the other in June.

As to my never being "allowed to do any more Church work in connection with St. Alban's," the Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, who alone has and will have the settlement of that question, does not yet say so. Indeed, down to a very recent period, he has been, and has expressed himself, anxious to get me back. In one of his letters to me he tries to say that *the responsibility of keeping me from my duties there is all my own*, and all along it has been myself who said, "I won't go back till the disciplinarian curate apologizes." I believe, only the day before Mr. Sedgwick went away to Southampton to pass the Christmas season, he told a mutual friend that "*we* had had no quarrel; there was no difference between *us*," and, if I can prevent it along with doing my duty, there never shall be.

It is far easier to make charges than to repel them, but I think I have by this shown that I am not so bad as a Real Chorister has tried to prove me. I could not be so very bad in the eyes of the "rector of St. Albans," if in April he could invest me with an authority which placed under my oversight and control four priests, one organist, and three week evening helpers, two financial managers, thirty men and women helping church, educational, and parochial work, seventy members of the choir, and a thousand pounds worth of property. I know this much, that the responsibility was very heavy upon me, and the appointment to such immense powers was undesirable and unsought.

Let me, however, further say that the charges thus brought against me, except the lighting of candles and gifts of toy rosaries, relate to actions done or supposed to be done in the years 1864 and 1865, and at a time when the movement of Ignatius met with very strong support,

Pitt not only as a war minister, but as the promoter of the commercial interest of the country, which he once declared in the House of Commons "no other minister has ever understood so well." In 1797, he subscribed £10,000 to the voluntary contributions towards the support of Pitt's war with France, and raised among his own work-people a corps of volunteers, six companies strong, of which he became the lieutenant-colonel commandant. In the debate on the Union with Ireland in 1799 he supported the Minister's plans for a union with Ireland in a vigorous speech, setting forth the commercial advantages which would result to the poorer country from a union with the richer, and his remarks produced such an effect that the Government thought them worthy of a separate circulation in Ireland. Probably it was this service, capping all the others, that led Pitt to make him a baronet soon afterwards. With the Minister, whom he hoped that one of his sons would live to imitate, he disagreed on only one subject—the Slave Trade. But if he troubled himself little about the extradition of the inhabitants of Borrioboola Gha, he was the first to propose to Parliament enactments to mitigate the evils of the factory system which had grown up under his eye. Later and more successful efforts in this department of legislation have thrown into the shade those of the first Sir Robert Peel, but it was he who sowed the seed of which the fruit is now to be seen everywhere around us. Comparatively small as was his success in the face of the antagonism and inertion which obstructed him, it was greater than could have been achieved by any other than one who was himself a successful manufacturer, a large employer of labour, and whose motives, therefore, were not to be impeached by the fiercest opponent of his beneficent efforts. He began in 1802 by introducing into the House of Commons a bill to "Ameliorate the Condition of Apprentices in the Cotton and Woollen Trade." As regards the limitation of the hours of labour prescribed in it, this was what would now be called a twelve hours bill; but more important than any restriction of that kind imposed by it were the detailed provisions which it contained for compelling the master to attend to the health and housing, the education, secular and religious, and even to the clothing, of his apprentices. The bill was passed into an Act in the session of its introduction, but before very long it became a dead letter. The apprenticeship system in the cotton trade was rapidly disappearing. Population in Lancashire was growing more adequate to meet the demands of the market, and instead of importing and apprenticing pauper children, the manufacturers could avail themselves of the labour of children born in the district, and without recourse to the old apprenticeship system. The very passing of Sir Robert Peel's act doubtless hastened the disappearance of apprenticeship as a status which imposed stringent obligations on the employer; and a few years later it was found that the labour of children in factories was entirely unprotected by law. Towards the close of 1815, accordingly, Sir Robert Peel introduced for the protection of all young persons employed in factories, and without any reference to apprenticeship, a ten hours bill, among the provisions of which was one prohibiting the labour of children under ten. In the following year his proposals were referred to a select committee, and shelved for a time. In 1817 Sir Robert seems to have been prevented by illness from attending Parliament. In 1818, however, he introduced, as a compromise, and in order to conciliate his opponents, an eleven hours bill, which, after it had reached the Lords, was lost through the prorogation of Parliament. At last, in 1819, he carried through both Houses of Parliament a bill to regulate the hours of labour in factories; but the House of Commons would not tolerate even the measure of the preceding year, and a twelve hours bill was all that Sir Robert Peel could wring from the Lower House. The question slept until 1833, when the agitation of it was resumed, and continued with the well-known result; but after so long an interval the paternity of factory legislation of any kind was well-nigh forgotten. The new Ten hours Bill agitation was, moreover, conducted under circumstances unfavourable to any vivid perception of a connection between the movement and the name of Peel. It was steadily opposed by the first Sir Robert Peel's celebrated son, who had, meanwhile, risen to fill some of the highest offices in the State. In the history of another question the remembrance of the parliamentary conduct of the first Sir Robert Peel has been likewise almost obliterated by the conspicuous policy of the second. But it was only towards the close of his political career that the second Sir Robert Peel opposed and abrogated those Corn Laws, the principle of which seems to have been steadily combatted by his father during the whole of *his* parliamentary life.

To the education and training of this celebrated son the first Sir Robert devoted himself with rare assiduity. As he once told the House of Commons when he and the second Sir Robert took different courses on the currency question, he had from an early period hoped to "present" his son "to his country to follow in the same path" trodden by that William Pitt whom the enthusiastic old gentleman declared on the occasion to be "the man of all the world the most to be admired and the most to be imitated." "When the second Sir Robert was a very little fellow," says Sir Laurence Peel, "his father would sometimes playfully lift him on to a little round table which stood by the breakfast table, and would hear from the 'tribune' the recitation of some juvenile lesson. No sounds pleased the father so well from his boy's lips, as those which showed that the work was going on."

And again, according to the same authority, "at a maturer age, at about twelve years, the boy was accustomed to repeat each Sunday to his father, commonly in the study, all that he could remember of the sermon, and occasionally a guest at the dinner-table, some member of the family, or intimate friend, was permitted to hear that which was more generally repeated to his father alone. He was taught not merely to repeat the discourse, but to give the substance of it in his own words, was encouraged to ask questions, and to obtain a solution of any difficulties which the subject might have presented." This was the domestic contribution to the manufacture of a second William Pitt; Harrow and Oxford, and the industry of the pains-taking young gentleman himself, did the rest. The younger Robert Peel had been ten years in Parliament, had filled the office of Under Secretary of State for the Colonies, and of Chief Secretary for Ireland, and he was member for the University of Oxford to boot, when in 1819 he gave his fond father a shock by introducing his well-known Currency Bill. The old gentleman cherished a firm faith, more fashionable then and since than now, in the virtues of an unconvertible paper currency, against which his son's ever-famous bill was directed, and he had, even in much earlier life, written a queer pamphlet to prove (in the zeal of his Toryism) that the National Debt itself is a national blessing. It was on the occasion of the son's introduction of the bill that he made the speech already quoted from, regretting the necessity for differing from a "very near and dear relative," and winding up with the declaration:—"I will only say further of him, that though he is deviating from the proper path in this instance, his head and heart are in the right place, and I think they will soon recall him to the right way" of viewing the currency question!

Old Sir Robert was now bordering on seventy, and this little disagreement with his son probably, too, contributed, as well as age, to his withdrawal from the House of Commons soon after its occurrence. He had for some time previously abandoned the management of his business to his other sons, and he spent the ten last years of his life in opulent retirement, at Drayton. Here it was that on his seventy-eighth birthday, in 1828, he gathered fifty children and grandchildren around him, and he presented each with a medal as a memorial of the patriarchal festivity. He died on the 30th of May, 1830. "A few days before his death," says Sir Laurence Peel, "feeling himself more than usually alert, he invited three of his nephews to dine with him. At dinner he asked if the champagne was good, and being told that it was, he drank a glass of it. The wine raised his spirits, and he conversed with much animation about past times. After dinner they played at whist, and after a rubber or two, Mr. Willock, perceiving that his uncle's hand shook a little as he dealt the cards, offered to deal for him. 'No, no, Robert,' he said, 'If I cannot deal my own cards, it is time to give up the game,' and with this characteristic speech he broke up the rubber. He survived but a few days." At his death he must have been one of the richest commoners in England, and he may have often before it looked back complacently to the days when he boarded with his father-in-law for twelve shillings a week. His personal property was sworn at what is technically called "upper value," which means that it exceeded £900,000, and was the first instance of a scale of duties extending to such a sum. The probate stamp was fifteen hundred pounds, and the legacy duty amounted to about six thousand pounds more.

In person, the first Sir Robert Peel is described by his panegyrist (of

Public Characters) as "tall, manly, and well-proportioned." His nephew speaks of him as "grave in exterior, yet a humorous man, with a quiet relish of fun." The old anonymous panegyrist, already referred to, records of him a rather unexpected trait, of which there is no mention anywhere else: "Colloquial discussions on the phenomena of nature," the public of 1803-4 was informed, "constituted his chief delight; and to an early habit of abstracting and generalizing his ideas he unites the curiosity of a naturalist and the eye of an acute observer." All accounts agree as to the combination which he presented of kind-heartedness with long-headedness, his munificence, private no less than public, his large and judicious, his delicate and unobtrusive, charity. It was with an eye to business, no doubt, that he offered a lucrative partnership to Samuel Crompton; but there was nothing interested in the zeal with which, long after the distrustful Crompton had sullenly repelled all his overtures, he exerted himself to procure a suitable national reward for the ill-fated inventor of the spinning-mule. Were it only that he, an opulent manufacturer, was the first man to propose and to carry feasible and beneficent measures for the improvement of the condition of factory children, his memory deserves to be held in honour. What he did to make a statesman of his son has been already hinted; and certainly few famous men have had more reason than the second Sir Robert Peel to feel the proverbial thankfulness for the fact that he had "a father before him."

ST. ALBAN'S CHURCH.

A GLIMPSE OF ITS INNER HISTORY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SPHINX.

SIR,—Though I have no wish to take part in a controversy carried on under anonymous signatures, wherein statements may creep, and charges be made, both reckless and untruthful, you will perhaps allow me to reply to the letter signed "A Real Chorister."

I did object to the candles being lighted; first, because of the written promise to the Bishop as to a "conformity as near as possible to the Cathedral model;" and next, although the judge of the Court of Arches had decided they were legal in the Church of England, and no notice of appeal had been given, because the case and decision having occurred within the Province of Canterbury his verdict had no force or authority within the Province of York. The Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, after a sermon wherein he tried to show the antiquity, symbolism, and lawfulness of altar lights, and declaring that henceforth they would be lighted at the mid-day celebration of Holy Communion, lit them himself, and afterwards requested me to place that among my other duties, which I performed for a month, and so that it might not get into too demonstrative hands I, with his consent, transferred the lighting to the chorister who performed the duty until the late Bishop interposed to stop that piece of Ritual. I refer to appointing him as rebutting the charge of aiding "acrobatism," for my reasons for nominating him were because he would do it "quietly and reverently, and without any absurd display." If a Real Chorister has had his position at St. Alban's for a few years he must have known how and to what extent I kept the "acrobats" from performing any duties in the sight of the congregation, and also how strongly they have urged this as a complaint against me.

As to his charge of popery, he must also be well aware that from Epiphany, 1865, down to Whit Sunday, 1870, I have been taunted with being a "Protestant," and more than once was told that I was not advanced enough for St. Alban's. Instead of having "Romeward leanings, I have been accused by the "perverts" from St. Alban's of hindering others from their best interests, *i.e.*, leaving the church of their baptism and training, as the verts had done, to become members of a communion that will always be adding to its "Faith and Duty" until the end of time. The charge of having been "the means of one member joining St. Chad's" is false. The assertion that "he and his family would not have become Romanists but for me" is a wicked and wilful perversion of facts. No one will more indignantly deny the charge than the person referred to.

Certainly I was for about six months a member of the Manchester Branch of the Third Order O.S.B., and for two months sub-prior under the Rev. Father Nihill, curate of St. Alban's, and what my clergyman belonged to could not be very improper for me. It was but an association of laymen for prayer and church work. I did spend a few days in the Guest's House of the so-called Norwich Monastery, while on the way to Yarmouth and Lowestoft for holidays, but not then belonging to the order in any way, I was not allowed to set a foot in the monastery. Nor was I the only one that went there at various times. Others from St. Alban's, including some from whom a Real Chorister has obtained his information, have been and enjoyed themselves there. But I did not wear a "monk's dress." I went about in my ordinary dress, as I did and do in Manchester; and whenever I had to do otherwise, I put on a cassock from St. Alban's Vestry.

I never "assisted at a Popish service for the dead," and I did not know the Benedictines when they held the service referred to. "I never performed Popish services at a house in Ancoats." The weekly services we held in our oratory there were said by myself and others from a copy of a manuscript Prayer Book compiled by the Revs. J. L. Lyne and H. D. Nihill, and though founded on the Benedictine Breviary, we were assured all was perfectly proper and catholic. The books used by the congregation were the Book of Common Prayer and Hymns Ancient and Modern. True it is that the services contained the versicle referred to, and others akin to it, but it was these very sentences which, when I found I could not change the services, led me to that reasoning and to seek that advice which ultimately caused suspension of their meetings and me to resign all connection with the Order. I never took any member of St. Alban's nor any one else to see the then existing portion of the Monastery at Gorton." In Whit-week, 1865, being strongly urged by the person referred to, to go with him that he might (I afterwards learned) have a covering for his going and taking a much younger person who had had some difficulty in procuring parental consent unless I also went, I made one of the party; but if visiting that marvellous production of a few poor foreigners is the crime a Real Chorister would make out, then many of St. Alban's people and other churchmen in Manchester have frequently offended.

I did, along with a dozen others from St. Alban's choir (our proceeding being allowed by the clergy at St. Alban's), assist at a service in the Corn Exchange; but I did not wear a monk's dress, cotta, and rosary. Along with the others from the choir, I had a cassock and surplice from St. Alban's. I have given "rosaries to several members of St. Alban's," and should do so again if asked by the same people and for like purposes. A Romanist would be much grieved to see the trinket A Real Chorister calls a rosary put to the purposes those I gave were.

With regard to my authorization from the Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, let it speak for itself as to who comes under it. It says, "All workers and work having duties and location within the chancel, vestry, north chapel, and basement story of the tower." The date upon which the authority was verbally and publicly conferred was April 3rd, and the document is dated Easter, 1870. The curates came, one in May, the other in June.

As to my never being "allowed to do any more Church work in connection with St. Alban's," the Rev. J. E. Sedgwick, who alone has and will have the settlement of that question, does not yet say so. Indeed, down to a very recent period, he has been, and has expressed himself, anxious to get me back. In one of his letters to me he tries to say that *the responsibility of keeping me from my duties there is all my own*, and all along it has been myself who said, "I won't go back till the disciplinarian curate apologizes." I believe, only the day before Mr. Sedgwick went away to Southampton to pass the Christmas season, he told a mutual friend that "*we* had had no quarrel; there was no difference between *us*," and, if I can prevent it along with doing my duty, there never shall be.

It is far easier to make charges than to repel them, but I think I have by this shown that I am not so bad as a Real Chorister has tried to prove me. I could not be so very bad in the eyes of the "rector of St. Albans," if in April he could invest me with an authority which placed under my oversight and control four priests, one organist, and three week evening helpers, two financial managers, thirty men and women helping church, educational, and parochial work, seventy members of the choir, and a thousand pounds worth of property. I know this much, that the responsibility was very heavy upon me, and the appointment to such immense powers was undesirable and unsought.

Let me, however, further say that the charges thus brought against me, except the lighting of candles and gifts of toy rosaries, relate to actions done or supposed to be done in the years 1864 and 1865, and at a time when the movement of Ignatius met with very strong support,

both active and passive, open and secret, from the advanced clergy and laity in this locality, and when that movement was being anxiously watched by some of our ecclesiastical rulers, to see whether it could prove itself worthy of being anything else beyond an experiment by which to try and solve the still unanswered question—"How shall we reclaim the masses, and make the Church the Church of the People?" In my support of it I was in pretty good company, and along with its true friends hoped that, when it had proved itself worthy of countenance and support, competent ecclesiastical authority would take it in hand and purge its constitution and services of the latent Popery which incompetency had unwisely adopted. I always had great difficulty in passing over their adoption of the *cultus* of the B.V.M. and their invocation of the saints, and these, along with the unfairness of putting my own construction upon the rules and monitions others were strictly bound by (I was admitted on my own terms, stating beforehand that some things I could not and would not accept), and acting under the advice of a dear clerical friend whom all at St. Alban's love and honour, I sent in my resignation, and on March 1st, 1866, my name was taken off the list of members, and I was free once more. From that day to this the Manchester branch of the Third Order O.S.B. have never been able to meet. Since leaving them I have striven to make all the reparation I could to the outraged feelings of the friendships and associations I had enjoyed before, and I hope I have successfully retrieved the character and position I occupied with them. I candidly confess I made a mistake and did wrong in joining the O.S.B., and I have done severe penance for it since. Surely, I had a right to retrace my steps after wrong-doing, and the grace of five years' penance should be allowed to hide six months' unfaithfulness to my churchmanship.

wrong-doing our usual and ordinary behaviour ought to be looked at, for if we are continually going back for antecedents we can only make ourselves and others very miserable. It was of practices and teachings in St. Alban's of to-day I complained, not of those of five years ago, which were then set right by some very decisive and vigorous action.

A Real Chorister has proved himself a bad counsellor in bringing to light again the unfortunate doings of 1864 and 1865—doings which brought so much trouble to the door of the St. Alban's of that time, and from which the place is not yet free. I trust, however, that they will even yet see that "the path of duty is the path of safety," and that however much a gorgeous but un-English ritual is yearned after, and a singularity which cuts off all hope of completion and consecration is gloried in, the public may yet see their solemn promises faithfully kept. I wish again to remind them, through you, that the site, the cost of the present fabric, and the protection they have needed, were all granted upon the strength of promises and protestations which ought to be realized as far as possible, if they wish to regain the character of being earnest, upright, and honourable people.—Thanking you for your courtesy, I remain yours faithfully,

THE QUONDAM CHORISTER.

January 7th, 1871.

MUSIC IN MANCHESTER.

WITH the commencement of the new year we have arrived at a point midway between the beginning and end of the Manchester musical season, which extends from October to March, and are able to review somewhat advantageously the general results. So far, the season may be fairly compared with those of former years, for though the number of the concerts given in Manchester has been very wisely diminished and there have been few of a special character, there have been ample variety and novelty in the programmes at the Gentlemen's Concert Hall and at the Free Trade Hall under Mr. Hallé. Of the first-named it is not our province to deal, as they can hardly be considered public performances, so, with a passing mention of the excellent and interesting concerts of the Vocal Society, which deserve praise, not only for their admirable part-singing, but for the encouragement and improvement they afford to our local artists, we proceed to what are after all the great musical efforts in Manchester—Mr. Hallé's concerts. This year a special interest is attached to them by reason of the production of Beethoven's nine symphonies, in the order as they were written. Apart from the fact that their nobility and beauty surpass all that is known in music of any time, no other series of performances, we believe, could do so much for musical education, and it would be desirable that Mr. Hallé should repeat them all next year, even at the sacrifice of many fine works by the great masters, for more the public become familiarized with these symphonies, the greater must be the pleasure in hearing them. They contain music of all species, sensuous, poetic, and scientific—each formed in a special mould perfect in its entirety, incapable of inversion or alteration of any kind, and each as it has been the last heard seeming to be more perfect than the other.

The chief incidents of the season so far have been the farewell concerts of Signor Mario, the re-appearance of Mdlle. Viardot Garcia, the appearance of Herr Stockhausen, and the non-appearance of Mr. Sims Reeves, the latter a great loss to the public, to Mr. Hallé, and still more to the artist himself, of whom it need not be said here that no one can have more reason to regret the cause of his absence than himself. The singing of Madame Viardot Garcia must have been a new light to many of her hearers, and few could have imagined until they heard her what dramatic singing may be—how it can be given without any staginess, offensive in a concert-room, after the manner of Mdlle. Nillson, and yet be so intense as to be almost painful. Such was Madame Garcia's rendering of the Erl King. Herr Stockhausen was, considering the reports that preceded him, somewhat disappointing, a fact no doubt owing to the magnificent voice of Mr. Santley, to which we are so used; yet his singing of the "Liederkreis" was so perfect that it is impossible not to admit that he has no superior as a vocal artist. What he can do in more arduous parts we can hardly judge, for he sang the music of *Elijah* while suffering from a severe cold, so that at present it would be unfair to say whether or not his voice is equal to the requirements of such a sustained effort in so large a room as that of the Free Trade Hall.

The length of these concerts has been spoken of before now in these pages, and we feel compelled to renew the protest. No doubt, when the audience are tolerably uneducated musically, and merely listen to sounds which please them or not, but do not *think* about what they hear, they want much for their money. Such may have been the case when Mr. Hallé began his concerts; but unless he has laboured for his art all these years in vain, the people to whom he exhibits music must by now have learnt that a symphony or a concerto is not merely a soothing noise, to be heard in an abstracted manner and forgotten when finished, but that to listen intelligently to a serious composition requires a strong mental effort—one of the most delightful in the world, no doubt, but still an exhausting one—and the more educated in music a man may be, the greater delight he experiences in so listening, and the greater the mental effort. Therefore, when a concert like one of Mr. Hallé's contains an important symphony, that symphony should be the second part of the programme by itself, and nothing should be heard afterwards. It is unfair to the music following, and to the symphony itself, that an unsurpassed work like Beethoven's seventh Symphony, which carries the audience into the highest realms known in the art—which is the most perfect and noblest poetry possible, as far as we can tell, in music—should be followed by such a piece as the overture to *William Tell*. In its place, the overture is unequalled among overtures; but it is of the theatre, theatrical, and, coming after Beethoven's delicious idyl, seemed merely noise. Its special excellence was lost by comparison, and at the same time it destroyed the recollection that should have existed of the symphony.

The audience are in some measure to blame for many annoyances, and when the concert is very long no doubt people must leave early who live out of town, but at one of the concerts, we believe the sixth, some few in the reserved seats found it advisable for their better comfort to leave as early as half-past nine. This is rather unfair, and disturbs the rest of the audience, who are sure to be inconvenienced by people passing. There is no excuse whatever for those who, coming late, do not hesitate to walk up to their places between the parts of a concerto. Mr. Hallé has done much for music in Manchester; more perhaps than many people give him credit for, but there are still some reforms for him to accomplish. Two of them are to establish intervals, when those who come late or leave early can enter or depart without interfering with the performance, and to give shorter concerts.

THE THIRD VOLUME.—The Index to the Third Volume is given as a supplement with the present number.

TOWN TALK,
AND THINGS IN GENERAL.

MANCHESTER ARTISTS IN LONDON.

THE Old and New Water-Colour societies have opened their winter exhibitions of sketches and studies, and in both the artists connected by birth or training with Manchester are well represented—the Old Society, of course, bearing off the palm in this respect. Having no representative of the *Sphinx* in the metropolis at present, we are compelled to rely for the moment upon the criticisms of the London press, and we select by preference the two most independent and conscientious journals. The (London) *Guardian*, writing of the Old Society, notices the works of the new associate, Mr. A. H. Marsh, of Mr. F. D. Watson, Mr. Basil Bradley, and Mr. F. Powell. "The works of Mr. Marsh," it says, "hardly as yet assert their separate and individual existence, for they have much in common with some of the sea-side drawings of Mr. Watson, and though on a closer inspection distinctive qualities are discovered, enough similarity remains to justify the first impression. The shadows and local colouring have too great a tendency to blackness for open-air subjects, as is seen in particular in his well-balanced figure of a vigorous young fisherwoman, Jessie; and he often depends for effect upon a violent contrast of light and shade, as in his child fetching water from The Brook, and the Sea-cave. Mr. Basil Bradley has given his attention chiefly to white animals. Mr. Powell is constant to the Scottish coast and its waters, and generally also to a grey and light key of colour; when sometimes he takes to a warmer tone, as in his Carrick Castle, Loch Goil, it is not an improvement." The *Saturday Review* is severe in its remarks upon Mr. Marsh's drawings. "Mr. Marsh," it says, "appears eminently inartistic; it is hard to conceive of forms more uncouth or of colour more dirty." But it passes even a harsher verdict upon Mr. Shields. "How men," it says, "who started fairly may fall is sometimes painfully seen, as, for example, in Olympia and other monstrosities by Mr. Shields." Again: "We cannot quit the exhibition without contrasting the spurious high art of Mr. Shields, conspicuous by its presence, with the high art of Mr. Burne Jones and Mr. Burton, now and henceforth conspicuous only in absence. Olympia, by Mr. Shields, is of the signboard school; Lucrezia, by the same artist, might serve as a placard for an itinerent caravan of tigers and hyenas." The *Saturday* bestows very high praise upon "the slight, rapid, free-hand sketches" of Mr. T. Collier, who, as a new member, makes a first appearance in the exhibition of the New Society, or New Institute, as it is now called. "Near Wareham has an out-doors look; the atmosphere is clear as daylight; all the more so because not an atom of opaque sullies the paper. Crossing Burnmoor, Cumberland, proves that the artist can mature; this drawing is in quality and manner nearer to Cox's moorlands than any work seen in London since the death of 'Old Cox.'" Speaking generally, and of both exhibitions, the critic thinks that over production is exercising a detoriating effect upon water-colour art.

DOWNFALL OF THE "TIMES."

We have been informed, on what we believe to be very good authority, that the Manchester and Salford Sessions Bar, in ordering what newspapers their library should be supplied with during the ensuing year, excluded the *Times*, by a considerable majority, as being a journal unworthy the perusal of intelligent men.

THE ROADS AND CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

The preprietors of our public conveyances appear to have at length awakened to the necessity of adapting their resources to the exigencies of the times. We now see cabs drawn by two horses, and omnibuses by four and five. Whether the relief is real or not, we cannot say. It may be that the larger number of horses are worked a longer time. At any rate, let us be thankful for these symptoms of an awakening. We see, however, no reason why the usual regulations as to the number of passengers should be suspended, but every reason why they should be enforced. The long spell of hard weather we have lately had has taxed the animal kingdom to the utmost, and in some cases beyond it; and it behoves all persons to do what they can to mitigate the misery of the streets.

A SPHINX PARTY.

LEST any one reading the above title should rush to the conclusion that there has been an assemblage of Sphinxes let him be at once assured that there is, as a fact, no plural of Sphinx; that like the old French Republic it is one and indivisible; and that, in short, there is one Sphinx and the Publisher has its profits.

There has been however within the last few days an assemblage of the *Sphinx* staff, the Editor's young men, so to speak, at which several occasional contributors also were present. It had been previously the policy of the Editor, in his inscrutable and unerring wisdom, to keep each individual contributor perfectly in the dark as to who all or any of the other contributors were, and some amusement was consequently created when, in obedience to a pink billet-doux, one celebrity after another entered the room, amazed to find himself in the company of the distinguished persons already assembled, and further astonished on the arrival of others who came afterwards. The business talent of the meeting seemed exhausted by voting the Editor into the chair, and no minutes or record of the proceedings seem to have been kept. An occasional contributor, who carefully kept himself in the background during the meeting, so far recovered, however, after reaching home as to be able to jot down some of the leading incidents of the evening, and it is to him that the readers of the *Sphinx* are indebted for the following brief narrative of what took place at this unprecedented gathering.

The Editor, without delay, "called the meeting to order," to use a happy Americanism, by ringing the bell for the waiter, and desiring him to see what each gentleman would take, and, when he had done that, to bring in "the materials" immediately, if not sooner, so that the meeting might be afterwards free from intrusion. This was accomplished—the only difficulty being caused by one or two having given their orders, and afterwards discovering that they had nothing with them but a £50 note and a check apiece, which they didn't want to change. A willingness on the part of several others to "stand," or stand, remain, and be responsible for the expense, being exhibited, the waiter was induced to withdraw, and the Editor began the proceedings by observing that the circular which had been—a—in fact circulated, had been prepared by Principal Greenwood, of Owens College, as his name at the foot of it would perhaps sufficiently indicate, but as that gentleman was understood to be then engaged in giving a lecture to one of the evening classes on the subject of Pure Mathematics considered in their Relation to Calisthenic Exercises, and could not be present to explain the object he had in view, he should call on Mr. R. P. Willock, the eminent wine merchant—(cheers)—who was, he believed, entirely in the confidence of the learned Professor on this subject.

MR. WILLOCK said he thought the intention of the learned professor was sufficiently stated in the circular, or in other words, that the Principal idea was clearly apparent on the face of it, and he could give no further explanation as to why the meeting had been called. In his own circulars he gave the fullest information as to prices, and brands, and discount, and empties, and such like, and if any gentleman present had not received one of them, he should be happy to forward——

The TOWN-CLERK here rose to order. He said the chief object at present was to get a light. He had used up his circular in trying to get a light for his pipe, but in vain; and, if the house couldn't afford a box or two of matches, he'd be a halfpenny towards sending out for a supply. When a fellow had a fresh packet of Bristol, which was often damp, and a new cherry-wood pipe——

The BISHOP of MANCHESTER, interrupting, said, for his own part he generally smoked a churchwarden, and in the matter of lights few sees, he thought, were so well supplied as his own; but to come to business. (Hear, hear, and loud table-rapping by the chairman.) He had recognized on first coming to Lancashire, what a great instrument for education the *Sphinx* might become, and if the usefulness of the paper had been increased by his own trifling contributions (cheers)—but on this he would not dwell. The variety of the topics treated upon had amazed him. What truth there might be in the descriptions of some empty churches

he was not prepared to say. He only knew he had never preached in an empty church in Manchester. The notices on cookery had been read with great interest by his mother and by another lady, who for the present must be nameless (cheers); but he thought it would be advisable to try and get a little more system about the paper. He named this because he felt a certain awkwardness when the Editor came into Burder's front room on a Wednesday morning and told him (the Bishop) that he must have two columns from him by four o'clock. Burder was a very good fellow, though rather too fond of smoking in the office of a morning—but this by the way. He thought if they could all meet and settle the subjects for the next week or month it might be better. He had so many meetings to attend that he had no time to prepare a subject, so he generally said the first thing that came into his head, and it seemed to do as well; but if the Editor could name the subject beforehand, he could be thinking of it as he tramped up and down Cheetham Hill Road.

Mr. IVIE MACKIE said he thought the idea of the last speaker was absurd and ridiculous to the last degree. He only wrote when he felt inclined, and on whatever he liked, and he wasn't going to be dictated to as to what he was to write about, either by the Editor or anybody else, especially considering the pittance, the miserable pittance, he might call it, that he received for carefully-written contributions which had cost many a sleepless night. In fact, the thing wasn't worth doing at all, and that was all about it. Had any gentleman any tobacco to spare?

Mr. SAMUEL POPE, Q.C., said that he was a teetotaller and something more. He could drink water with any of them, but having a naturally weak constitution, he was obliged occasionally to temper its native wildness with a little whisky. (Here Mr. Willock was observed to wake up.) He had noticed some slight element of arrangement in the Town Talk paragraphs, which were always placed in the middle of the paper, and formed a distinguishing feature in it. They always contained a deal of very interesting reading. He said this because he had written three-fourths of them himself, and therefore knew all about it.

The EDITOR remarked that if anything was needed to prove the desirableness of such meetings as this, they had it in the delightful differences of opinion that appeared to exist among the company present. Nothing could so tend to raise the character of the paper as the entire want of unanimity that he was glad to see prevailing. The idea of his dictating to his contributors was, of course, as absurd and ridiculous as that of their dictating to him. (Consternation.)

Mr. STEPHEN HEELIS said that the minds of the gentlemen present seemed labouring under two sentiments which he was not prepared to describe as conflicting. The first was as to the necessity for the meeting at all, and the other was whether the meetings should be continued or not. He begged to move that the meetings be continued, and be held every Saturday evening at nine o'oclock.

Mr. EDWIN WAUGH objected, on the ground that that hour came too near to invading the privileges of the Sabbath. He thought Monday would be better.

The BISHOP would second the motion as improved by the previous speaker. He thought everybody improved everything and everybody else. He had been called absurd and ridiculous twice that evening, but he was of opinion that every expression used by a friend had its charm. If a person deserted the gorgeous ritual of the Unitarian Church for the plain Protestant services at St. John Baptist, which exactly suited the severe and classical taste of his friend Mr. Andrew, he thought his judgment unimpeachable; and, contrariwise, if any quondam choristers were dissatisfied with the Puritanical leanings in vogue at St. Alban's, and found consolation in the elaborate ceremonial at St. Ann's—the one weak point of his friend Mr. Bardsley, the priest in charge—all he could say was, to use an expressive phrase he had learnt during his tour in the United States, let him do as he darn pleases. He couldn't quite see how this affected the *Sphinx*, but some of them might, and it would be a great satisfaction to him if that were the case.

The formal business was then declared to be ended, and the waiter was summoned, pipes were re-lighted, the *Sphinx* song was melodiously sung by Mr. Hugo Sims Rigby Reeves, and all was harmony and joy.

Great sympathy was expressed for Mr. Alderman Willert, who was going to have his portrait painted, to be placed in the menagerie at the Town Hall, and a hope was expressed by one gentleman that, unless Watts had the commission, our townsman, W. H. Percy, might be employed to transmit the Alderman's striking features to posterity. Dr. John Watts was heard to observe that, although there were few persons in Manchester but were aware of his labours in the cause of education, he had never yet painted a portrait; but, as a distinguished writer had observed, a man never knows what he can do till he tries, he should be happy to do his best. Here it was explained to the learned Doctor that he was not the person referred to, and he thereupon departed in a huff, and it is understood that he does not now form part of the staff of the *Sphinx*.

We must apologize for the very imperfect nature of the above report, Many other well-known public men were present, but they either said nothing or their sayings have been forgotten. The Editor apologizes in advance for having omitted many sparkling witticisms, but the fact is, he subsequently joined a party of the contributors at supper, and does not recollect much of what occurred during the evening.

MR. SHIELDS AND THE PRIZE PICTURE.

ALL interested in art will remember that the award last year of the Heywood Prize at the Royal Institution to Mr. Keeley Halswelle, led to a prolonged newspaper controversy, and that Mr. F. J. Shields, who took a prominent part in the discussion, objected strongly to the Council's decision. Amongst other suggestions then offered to the Council of the Institution, it was especially insisted that they should in future call in professional aid before deciding which work should be honoured as "the best picture in the exhibition." The advice was taken this season, and after consulting Mr. Keeling, the president of the Manchester Academy of Art, the prize was awarded to M. Lecadre for his painting, Le Réveil, of which we have already spoken in our Exhibition notes. We have seen no reason to retract what we then said about this picture, and we were in no way astonished or disappointed to learn that it had obtained the prize. Mr. Shields, however, is again angry, and has published a long letter condemnatory of the picture, the Hanging Committee, and the Council. Appended to his letter was an amusing "protest," directed to the managers of the Royal Institution. Of these protestants, and of the ignorance and want of taste shown in their circular, we do not wish to say more than that Mr. Shields' strong letter is seriously injured by them, and that in future he should avoid his friends unless he is fully prepared to share with them the ridicule their neglect or stupidity must cause.

The attack on the Hanging Committee for their unfair treatment of Mr. Edward Armitage, A.R.A., Mr. Huggins, and Mr. Scott, is perfectly justifiable, and on this point Mr. Shields has not said a word too much; but, with regard to the prize picture, we are regretfully compelled to differ from him entirely, and cannot avoid the conclusion that the publication of his views on the subject is most ill-advised. He says that the Council have chosen a picture "which almost excludes discussion, it being nearly impossible to argue the subject (the choice of the picture) with chastity of words," and that it is "the most shameless thing" he ever saw on the walls of an English exhibition. By which he evidently means that his objection is not that the picture is badly painted or badly drawn, but that it is indecent; for he carefully avoid any statement adverse to its technical merits. Now, so far as the charge of indecency is concerned, Mr. Shields goes on to declare that he does not object to nudity *per se*, which simplifies the matter; but that he does object to a picture of an unlovely woman in an attitude worse than ungraceful, and so far all will agree with him. In this case, however, we deny that his accusation is just, and, as he gives no reasons, we can only suppose from his allusion to Mr. Ingre's La Scource that he has a theory that a figure standing upright is pure, while one reclining is indecent, which is of course absurd; or else it may be that he and his supporters are unable to perceive any difference of facial expression between sleepiness and lasciviousness, in which case it is of course hopeless to argue with them. But we feel none the less bound to protest most strongly against the charge brought against M. Lecadre, as one of the most serious and injurious that can be alleged against an artist; and, until some more specific reasons are forthcoming, we can only regard it as the result of some unfortunate condition of digestion, or an entire misapprehension of

the picture and its intention. As a painting of the nude, it is executed with so much refinement and delicacy that we should be very sorry for the lady who could not look upon it without blushing, or the father who could not trust his son in its presence. In either case it would imply a very peculiar education—none of the purest, certainly.

Two wrongs do not make a right; but if this picture, which is simply a very perfect study, be immodest, what is to be said of many pictures hanging in our galleries, of which the stories themselves involve immorality? How would the virtuous father of Mr. Shields' imagination explain Etty's Syrens to his son? And what would he say to the many Susannas and Daughters of Lot that are so common in our permanent exhibitions? If they be unobjectionable, surely M. Lecadre's painting is purity itself. Over-sensitiveness in matters of morality is very dangerous, and is likely to do much harm if it take the form of public protestation, because it directs all attention to that one point, and induces many who would never think of the subject to search for what is objectionable on other occasions, and no doubt many who passed Le Réveil without perceiving its atrocity, will, in future exhibitions, be most careful in their examination of the pictures lest they should again overlook "a most shameless thing." Therefore we again say that Mr. Shield's letter is very ill-advised, but we fear it is hopeless to reason with his unfortunate, though doubtless, honest susceptibility, or with the uneasy virtue of the gentlemen and esquires who have subscribed to the protest.

THE PERSONNEL OF PARLIAMENT.

A statement lately appeared in some of the newspapers that the acting of comic characters was conducive to long life; and certainly when we look at such veteran comedians as Webster, Buckstone, C. Mathews, and his namesake Frank with the two t's, we are inclined to think that there is some truth in the assertion. Dejazet is seventy-three years of age, and has just concluded a London engagement, during which she represented the young scape-graces and mad-caps which captivated the Parisians fifty years since. When we consider the personnel of Parliament, we are disposed to believe that the political histrionics on that stage are engaged in an engrossing and laborious profession, but one which, like that of "Her Majesty's Servants," the players, is compatible with, if not conducive to, longevity. Now and again, politics claim a victim, and when a hard-worked official is prematurely cut off in his prime, a verdict is returned of "died of overwork." People, however, are cut off in their prime every day, while engaged in their ordinary business or profession, and even those who have no particular occupation, but who lead a life of ease and idleness, and apparently without any worldly care or anxiety to harass them, share the same fate. We are inclined to think that the cares of state-craft are often saddled with the death of its votaries, when the same person would probably have died had he been occupied in another sphere altogether.

Let us consider some of the prominent men in parliament at present, who have been in constant hard work nearly all their lives. It seems to us that the veterans are remarkable for their robustness and juvenility. Old as they are in years, there is scarcely a trace of senility and all that accompanies old age among them. In fact, the old boys are fully as vivacious, lively, and full of go, as the middle-aged hobbbledehoys. Lord Palmerston had a large amount of the youthful element in his composition, and he seems to have stamped a large portion of it upon the present house. For temperament, like outward tricks of manner, is infectious, and, unconsciously, subalterns imitate and acquire the method of their superior officers. A waspish and bad-tempered minister will make an irritable and peevish house. A self-reliant, gay, and juvenile premier like Palmerston, eradicated, in his time, a good deal of the somewhat pompous but bland and old-fashioned style which prevailed in Sir Robert Peel's days. The *rôle* of "first old man," is almost unknown in the present epoch, and is confined to a few representatives like Mr. Henley, who is seventy-seven years old, and looks like a cross between a country squire, which he is, and an attorney, which he was. During the Peel era, the elderly gentlemen of the House of Commons, although younger in years than many of our present men, assumed the elderly style, and were numerous. Peel himself was only sixty-one when he died from the effects of a fall from his horse, and was one year younger than Mr. Gladstone now is; yet for some four years before his death he had retired from any active participation in the business of the House. In appearance he gave one quite the idea of an old gentleman, and all the old portraits of him in *Punch*, which were the best liknesses of him ever taken, convey the same notion. His queer-shaped hat, long blue frock-coat and buff waistcoat, his grey hair, portly person, and spindle legs were all in keeping. His friend and colleague, Sir James Graham, followed suit, and during the last few years of his life always addressed the House in a sort of apologetical strain—why, it would be hard to tell, as he was one of the ablest men in it.

Now, nobody ever looks upon Mr. Gladstone as getting old or done. His figure is attenuated, and his face furrowed with deep lines and wrinkles; but he is brimful and running over with vital energy. His voice is clear and resonant. He gets through an enormous amount of official routine and work, and employs his leisure in writing religious books and treatises, and in felling trees in North Wales. Possibly, if Mr. Gladstone's intellect was less active, and he was not pestered by seeing every side of a question, he would be a more powerful Minister than he is. With the advent of Lord Palmerston to leadership, the veterans seemed to slough their old skins, and emerged quite fresh and radiant. Earl Russell is seventy-eight years of age, but shows few symptoms of decay, and, no doubt, is quite ready to take the helm of the State once more, if he were called upon to do so. He is small and shrunken, and mumbles in his speech; but so far as articulation went, he was always a poor speaker, and even at his best was small and wizen. He still seems as full of self-assertion and ripe for mischief as he was ever so many years ago, when he married his first wife, the Dowager Lady Ribblesdale, and was described by the wags of the day as "the widow's mite that was cast into the Treasury." Lord Halifax, the oldest member of the Cabinet, is seventy; but, although he has reached the allotted span, and is as thin as a Whig or a red herring, he has still plenty of work in him, and if there be any truth in the report that he has been talked of for the War Office, as a man competent to re-organize the army and cleanse that Augean stable, it looks as if he was considered in some quarters capable of accomplishing at least one of the twelve labours of Hercules. Mr. Disraeli completed his sixty-fifth year last month; but although, like Mr. Gladstone, he is haggard and worn, he has none of the habits and ways of age about him. All his best speeches are full of youthful vivacity, pungency and wit, and only last year he wrote a novel as remarkable for some extravagant flights of fancy as any which appeared in the pages of *Vivian Grey* and *Henrietta Temple* forty years since. Earl Granville is generally spoken of as a young man, and is a swell of the first water; nevertheless he is fifty-five years of age, and was Foreign Secretary for a short time twenty years since. Mr. John Bright has aged considerably during the last few years, but then he has unfortunately been suffering from illness, and the last time we saw him, which was after he became President of the Board of Trade, he did not look above his age, which is fifty-nine. The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lowe, is the same age as Mr. Bright, and has quite a boyish face in spite of his white hair and pink eyes. Indeed, Mr. Lowe has a great deal of the debating club about him, and might have only just left school and college. Mr. Cardwell, who is fifty-seven, has altered very little for the last twenty years. Sir John Pakington, who numbers seventy-one years, is as spruce and dapper as if he had just come out of a band-box, and yet he has worked hard in his day, and had three wives into the bargain. That fashionable young man, Mr. Chichester Fortescue, is forty-seven years of age, but he beats Sir John Pakington all to nothing, for he is the fourth husband of a lady of rank, which is quite as bold an undertaking as tackling either the Irish Secretaryship or the Board of Trade. The oldest-looking man in either house for his years, is the Marquis of Salisbury, who is only just forty, but would easily pass for sixty. In strength and vigour of debate, however, he is a match for any man in parliament. Those two Whig and Tory ex-secretaries of the Admiralty, Mr. Stansfeld and Lord Henry Lennox are generally mentioned as youthful members; yet one has exceeded and the other is on the verge of fifty years.

Leaving the veterans, we come to a batch of middle-aged members, of grave and sedate demeanour, who will probably not get much older in

the course of their career. Of such is Lord Derby, who is not so much a boy as his father was up to the last. Yet they say that Lord Derby can unbend at times, and be as frolicsome and full of pranks as any one. He is forty-five years old. The Duke of Argyll, who is as precise and solemn as a Presbyterian parson, and writes tremendous essays in *Good Words*, is forty-seven. The Earl of Kimberley, another "potent, grave, and reverend seignieur," is forty-four; Mr. Bruce, fifty; Mr. Foster, fifty-one; Lord De Grey and Ripon, forty-three; Mr. Childers, forty-three; Mr. Goschen, thirty-nine; and the Marquis of Hartington, thirty-seven. These are the young men of the Cabinet, and none of them are chickens. That sportive youth, Mr. W. Cowper-Temple, is fifty-nine years old; and Mr. Walpole, whom Bernal Osborne compared to a hearse-horse, is sixty-four. Sir Robert Peel, who seems scarcely to have sown his wild oats yet, is forty-eight; whereas Mr. Trevelyan, who has gone in for that huge business, army reform, is only thirty-two. Leaving the old boys and the middle-aged veterans, and turning to the youngsters from twenty-one to thirty, we find such men as Mr. W. H. Gladstone, Lord Lansdowne, and his brother, Mr. Fitzmaurice; the Hamiltons; Lord Lorne; Mr. Auberon Herbert; Mr. Chaplin, and others, who have shown ability and a disposition to shape for themselves independent courses. Some of these will probably be in the front rank fifty years hence.

To come nearer home, and take eight Lancashire county members. Mr. Wilson Patten is sixty-eight, and Mr. Frederick Stanley twenty-nine. Mr. Holt is forty-one, and his colleague, Mr. Starkie, a year younger. Mr. Charles Turner is sixty-seven, and Mr. Assheton Cross forty-seven. The South-East Lancashire representatives, Mr. Algernon Egerton and Mr. J. S. Henry, are respectively forty-four and forty-five years of age. To finish up with the members for Manchester and Salford, Sir Thomas Bazley is seventy-three, Mr. Hugh Birley fifty-three, Mr. Jacob Bright forty-nine, Mr. Cawley fifty-eight, and Mr. Charley thirty-seven years old.

Judging from the general state of preservation in which most of the gentlemen we have mentioned are, we must conclude that a parliamentary career is by no means an unhealthy although a laborious one, and that the flame of life burns quite as brightly with those who are actively engaged in public life as among those who lead the life of a recluse, or avoid coming in contact with their fellows.

AN EVENING WITH THE ATHENÆUM DEBATERS.

LIKE most men who make any pretensions whatever to the possession of literary or intellectual tastes we were at one time connected with a Mutual Improvement or Debating Society. We were deeply interested in that association. There was scarcely an official position in it, from that of Committee-man to that of President, which we did not successively fill; there was hardly a debate during which our voice was not heard; we moved and seconded innumerable motions, regulations, and bye-laws; we were of that laudable class the "regular essayists," in a word Mutual Improvement was our hobby.

An invitation to spend an evening with the Athenæum Debating Society stirred within us so many old memories that we gladly, and in a spirit of much curiosity, accepted it. The reader of our introductory paragraph will not be surprised to learn that we took our seat in the appointed place of meeting—a long and cheerless room in the Athenæum—in a rather sentimental mood. Remembrances of the old room and the old eager company—many of whom are dead, or ruined, or married, and all of whom, we may safely say, are changed—involuntarily crowded upon us. We found that we were grown meditative, and there was much about the members and proceedings which increased this tendency on our part to comparative retrospection. The place and time were different from those in which our own debating fire had burned — burned out, perhaps — and the company was an entirely strange one; yet the main characteristics of the assembly were the same as those of the society we had known in former times. In the first place the members arrived late, as if perfectly aware that the proceedings would not begin until about half-an-hour after the time appointed, and then kept "dropping in" with that elegant negligence with which in by-gone days we were so well acquainted. Then, when a sufficient number had arrived, the chair was occupied, and, a few preliminaries being gone through, the essayist arose amid the well-remembered thumping. Precisely as of yore this personage commenced his share of the evening's engagements by informing us of the incredibly short space of time in which the essay had been written. The essay itself went off like the railway train in *Dombey and Son*, "with a rush, and a roar, and a rattle," beginning with a quick sweep through the history of the question, changing into a roar of ridicule at all opposite opinions, then rattling over a few facts in support of the essayist's idea, and anon smoothly gliding through a long quotation. When the essayist had finished, there was the usual protracted pause before any member ventured to intrude himself upon the attention of the meeting, and the customary gentle hints from the chairman.

But, though all these characteristics pleased our imagination—according to Addison—by suggesting resemblances, we were most interested during the debate by tracing out old acquaintances under new faces. There was the philosophic individual, with deep voice and head bowed down, who spoke in short sentences and tried to get an abstract view of the question and to resolve it into principles; there was the pugilistic debater, whose words and arguments came out in a quick, rasping manner, with that sort of dogmatic regularity and hardness which gives one an idea of fistic applications; there was the astonished member, who simply expressed his surprize at the remarkable sentiments of the essayist, repeating a great many times the words "really, Mr. Chairman;" there was the youthful prodigy, who recounted a surprising variety of detached facts and odds and ends of knowledge, flying off in an erratic manner to every quarter of the globe and all periods of time, until we became appalled by the consciousness of our own ignorance; and there was the quiet, summarizing individual, who professed a general difference of opinion from everybody, and would have gone into the matter more in detail had time permitted. All these were familiar characters; they are common to almost every debating society. But the chairman was new. He flashed upon us as an undeniable novelty. For speed of utterance we have never heard his like. Rising slowly towards the end of the debate he launched off into such a torrent of speech, pouring forth sentence after sentence with such overpowering and electrical quickness that, dazed and utterly unable to keep pace with the orator's flow of words, our bewildered train lapsed into a state of passive amazement how in the name of all the wonders the speaker obtained breath to continue. In this condition we remained for the rest of the evening.

We don't like debates. Discussions and argumentative people are, in our opinion, social nuisances, and the ruin of good and pleasant conversation. For debating societies, however, we have a weakness. In a city like Manchester they constitute an admirable medium for bringing together young men of similar tastes. Again, they are an excellent means for awakening men to intellectual pleasures. But this is almost all that debating can do. It only calls faculties into play, it cannot of itself cause much real intellectual growth. This is especially true of political debates. At such the thought rarely rises above the average newspaper standard; the arguments and ideas used are mainly reiterations of newspaper leaders; the knowledge conveyed is at the best fragmentary and ill-assorted. "Speech is silvern, silence is golden," says Mr. Carlyle, and though, if report speaks truly, the Chelsea philosopher is himself a great talker, we nevertheless accept his dictum as a true one. We do not believe that debating ever yet caused a man to change his opinions or even made him much wiser.

In justice to the Athenæum Debaters we must, however, say that their selection of subjects for discussion as described by the titles of the essays detailed on the syllabus displays a taste above the standard of such associations. The political questions are not numerous, and several of the subjects are just of the class most likely to prove instructive. We speak advisedly when we say the titles show this, because in mutual improvement circles it is impossible to tell certainly from a title what the subject of an essay will be, or from an essay what the debate will turn upon. We learnt from an enthusiastic and communicative member that the debating club is one of the oldest societies in the Athenæum; that Mr. James Heywood, some time M.P. for South Lancashire, Richard Cobden, Mr. Hepworth Dixon, and many men now filling public offices and places of prominence in Manchester, were among its early members; and that it remains numerically as prosperous as ever. It is destined, no doubt, to a long career.

GOOD HOUSE COAL to be had at 48, GRANBY ROW, at 7d per cwt.
BEST, 8d. per cwt. Carted one mile and a half.

ONE YEAR'S RENT SAVED BY FURNISHING YOUR HOUSE
AT
GIBSON'S
COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENTS,
78, OLDHAM STREET,
AND
90, 92, 94, 96, STRETFORD ROAD,
WHERE CAN BE SEEN THE LARGEST AND CHEAPEST STOCK IN MANCHESTER.

A HOUSE COMPLETELY FURNISHED IN THREE DAYS.

DRAWING ROOM SUITES,
CONSISTING OF COUCH, LADIES' AND GENTS' CHAIRS, AND SIX SMALL CHAIRS, IN REP,
£8. 8s. TO 30 GUINEAS.

DINING ROOM SUITES,
IN MAHOGANY, AND COVERED WITH BRITISH MOROCCO, COMPLETE,
FOR 10 GUINEAS.
DINING ROOM SUITES IN BEST MOROCCO, FROM 19 GUINEAS.

Dining Tables, with extra leaf, and fitted with screw, 39s. 6d. to 10 Guineas.

Bed Room Suites, in various kinds of woods, from 8 Guineas to 40 Guineas.

CARPETS! CARPETS! CARPETS!!
CONSIDERABLY REDUCED!

Best Brussels, 3s. 4d., 3s. 11d., 4s. 6d. *Best Tapestry Brussels,* 2s. 4½d. to 2s. 11d.
Best Kidderminster, 1s. 8d. to 2s. 9d.

Iron Bedsteads, Full Size, 11s. 9d. to £6. Wool Beds, Bolsters, and Pillows, 16s. 6d. to 50s.

FEATHER BEDS from 38s. to £6 10s.

ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUES FREE.

NOTE THE ADDRESS:
R. H. GIBSON,
90 TO 96, STRETFORD ROAD; AND 78, OLDHAM STREET (ANCOATS STREET END).

W. & A. GILBEY,
WINE IMPORTERS AND DISTILLERS,
92 & 94 CROSS STREET, ALBERT SQUARE,
MANCHESTER.

Wines and Spirits in any quantity, from a Single Bottle upwards, can be obtained at the above address, or from the following Agents

ALBERT SQUARE	H. G. Crews, 92 & 94, Cross Street, Albert Square.
ARDWICK	Joseph Cadman, *Grocer*, 75, Downing Street.
BURY NEW ROAD	F. Stonier, *Grocer*, 11, Britannia Buildings.
CHESTER ROAD	F. & A. Burgon, *Grocers*, 90, Chester Road.
CHEETHAM HILL	M. Sykes, *Grocer*, 4, Victoria Crescent.
DEANSGATE	Nathaniel Gould & Co., *Grocers*, 260, Deansgate.
HARPURHEY	G. Marsden, *Grocer*, Post Office, Harpurhey.
OXFORD STREET	Nathaniel Gould & Co., *Grocers*, 177, Oxford Street.
PENDLETON	Knowles & Co., *Grocers*, 301 & 303, Broad Street.
REGENT ROAD	F. & A. Burgon, *Grocers*, 97, Regent Road.
STRETFORD ROAD	T. Seymour Mead & Co., *Grocers*, 67, Stretford Road.
STRETFORD ROAD	T. Seymour Mead & Co., *Grocers*, 304, Stretford Road.
SWAN STREET	Nathaniel Gould & Co., *Grocers*, 16, Swan Street.

Books of Prices, with Descriptions of 218 Varieties, will be forwarded on application.

A HANDSOME NEW YEAR'S PRESENT.
One of DUNKERLEY & FRANKS' Beautifully Finished Umbrellas. Retail at Manufacturers' Prices,
AT 7, SWAN STREET NEW CROSS, MANCHESTER.

ALEX. ROSS'S CELEBRATED HAIR PREPARATIONS.
HAIR DYE, 3s. 6d. HAIR DESTROYER, or Depilatory for Removing Hair from the Face, 3s. 6d. SPANISH FLY OIL, or Oil of Cantharides, for the Growth of Hair and Whiskers, 3s. 6d. ALEX. ROSS'S GREAT HAIR RESTORER, for Changing Grey Hair to its Proper Colour, 3s. 6d. Had of all Chemists in Manchester. ALEX ROSS, 248, High Holborn, London.

"LA SILENCIEUSE"

FAMILY LOCK-STITCH SEWING MACHINE,

FROM SIX GUINEAS,

On the greatly improved Wheeler and Wilson principle.

Manufactured by Pollock, Schmidt, and Co.

The movement is soft, silent, and without vibration.

For Family use without a rival.

KENDAL, MILNE, & CO.,

DEANSGATE, & POLICE-STREET, SOLE AGENTS.

"THE LITTLE WANZER"

LOCK-STITCH SEWING MACHINE,

PRICE FOUR GUINEAS.

This Machine, on account of its simplicity and great range of work, has been adopted by the NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATION IN IRELAND for all the National Schools.

KENDAL, MILNE, & CO., SOLE AGENTS,

DEANSGATE, POLICE-ST., & ST. ANN'S-STREET.

THE PEOPLE'S CONCERT HALL,

LOWER MOSLEY STREET, MANCHESTER.

Last week of Messrs.

FRENCH & ANGELO,

The wondrous Gymnasts, in their Marvellous Entertainment.

PROFESSOR CATHERWOOD'S

GRAND DIORAMA,

With Lime Light Effects, introducing his great Works of Art, Expedition to the Arctic Regions, Romantic Scenery of Ireland, Death of Nelson, the Ship on Fire, Franco-German War, and beautiful Views of the Rhine. Also Comic Illustrations.

Last week of the Comic Duettists and Vocalists,

MR. J. WRIGHT

and

MR. FRANK SADDLER,

in their celebrated impersonations of MALE and FEMALE Characters.

These popular Comedians and Vocalists are unequalled in their celebrated impersonations.—*Vide* the opinions of the Press and Public.

Engagement of

MISS CATHERWOOD,

Serio Comic Vocalist, and

MR. WILL VALE,

The Comic Vocalist.

MR. H. ELSE, COMIC VOCALIST.

PERSONS troubled with CORNS and WARTS should at once procure a bottle of ROBINSON'S PATENT CORN SOLVENT, which never fails to quickly remove them.—Sold in bottles at 7½d. and 13½d. each, by R. ROBINSON, chemist, Pendleton; EWSBURY, MOTTERSHEAD, & CO., Market Street; and most Chemists.

PRINCE'S THEATRE,

MANCHESTER.

Proprietors, the Prince's Theatre Company Limited.

CONTINUED AND UNPRECEDENTED SUCCESS OF

HARLEQUIN BLACKBIRD.

TWO PERFORMANCES ON FRIDAY & SATURDAY, JANUARY 6th and 7th,

The first at two, and in the evening at seven,

Of the GRAND CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME, entitled

HARLEQUIN BLACKBIRD;

OR,

THE HONEY, THE MONEY, AND THE DAINTY DISH.

MISS CARRY NELSON,
as PRINCE DARLING.

MADLLE. SELINA DOLARO,
as KRUMMINETTA.

MR. B. SHERIDAN,
as KING KRUSTIBILIUS.

MR. J. WAINWRIGHT,
as GORGIBUSTER.

MISS ANGELINA CLAUDE,
as FOLLY.

RITA SANGALLI, the Great Italian Danseuse.

THE following are some of the principal INCIDENTS in the Great PANTOMIME of HARLEQUIN BLACKBIRD:

OLYMPUS, OR THEREABOUTS.
THEFAIR IN TOFFIOPOLIS.
THE CORRIDOR.
THE COUNTING HOUSE AND THE KITCHEN.
The Magic Pie—The Incantation—The Duck of Ducks.
THE CASCADES OF ETERNAL YOUTH.
Ballet of Birds of Paradise. The Fairy of the Falls.
RITA SANGALLI.
THE ROAD FROM THE FALLS.
THE PARLOUR.
THE PALACE GARDENS.
THE PRINCE'S BOUDOIR.
GRAND TRANSCENDENTAL TRANSFORMATION.
THE HOME OF THE HUMMING BIRDS.

Clown, by the Great Little ROWELLA.
Pantaloon by MR. CHAPMAN.
Harlequin by MR. CHARLES GREEN.

Columbine by Miss KATE MORDAUNT.
The Nobby Bobby of the Wide-a-Wake Force, MR. BRACEWELL.
Sprites by the Brothers LEGLERE.

HARLEQUIN BLACKBIRD.

MORNING PERFORMANCES:

SATURDAY, January 14th, at Two o'clock.
WEDNESDAY, January 18th, at Two o'clock.
AND EVERY EVENING at Seven o'clock.

Prices as usual. Children Half Price to Stalls, Dress Circle, and Upper Circle.

Box Office open daily; those on which morning performances take place from 10-30 until 1; ordinary days from 11 to 2.

FINE FLAVOURED STRONG BEEF TEA at about 2½d. a pint. ASK FOR LIEBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT of Meat, requiring Baron Liebig the Inventor's Signature on every jar, being the only guarrantee of genuineness.

HELL AND ITS TORMENTS, AS DESCRIBED BY EYE-WITNESSES, &c. By T. R. Price 9d. Cloth gilt 1s. 3d. A most Extraordinary Book. London: Geo. J. Stephenson. Manchester: JOHN HEYWOOD. And all Booksellers.

RUPTURES.—EXHIBITION PRIZE MEDAL, 1862, was awarded to R. WESTBURY, Inventor and Sole Maker of the IMPERCEPTIBLE CURATIVE TRUSS, Deformity Instruments, Elastic Stockings, and other Invalid Appliances.

26, OLD MILLGATE, MANCHESTER.

CUFF'S, THOMPSTONE'S,

POTASS WATER,

CONTAINING

Fifteen Grains pure Bicarbonate of Potass in each Bottle,

As prescribed by the British Pharmacopœia.

Highly Recommended for Rheumatism, Gout, Acidity, Indigestion, &c.

SOLD BY MOST CHEMISTS OF STANDING,

Wholesale only by J. H. Cuff, late S. Thompstone MANCHESTER.

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PRESENT.

A Genuine

WHEELER & WILSON

SILENT SEWING MACHINE.

Prices from £6. 6s.

Depot, 131, Market-street, Manchester.

Prospectus free.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.

THESE PILLS are a sure specific for HEADACHE, INDIGESTION, FLATULENCE, COMPLAINTS or AFFECTIONS of the STOMACH, LIVER, KIDNEYS, &c. They give immediate relief in cases of PERSISTENT COUGH, ASTHMA, CONSUMPTION, and other AFFECTIONS of the LUNGS. For GOUT, RHEUMATISM, &c., they are invaluable; they have been in use for upwards of half a century, and thousands have testified to the benefits experienced by their use

Sold by all Chemists and other Dealers in Patent Medicines, at 1s. 1½d., s. 9d., and 4s. 6d per box.

Under Distinguished Patronage.

ANNUAL PERFORMANCE

OF THE

DE TRAFFORD CLUB,

In Aid of the Funds of the

WAREHOUSEMEN & CLERKS' ORPHAN SCHOOLS,

AT THE

CONCERT HALL,

PETER STREET.

ON MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 1871,

On which occasion will be presented a Serio-Comic Drama, in two acts, by Charles Selby, entitled—

"THE POOR NOBLEMAN."

By Members of the De Trafford Club.

Marquis de Belleterre..	(*the Poor Nobleman*)
M. Robinean	(*a Banker*)
Oscar Robinean	(*his Son*)
Brillart	(*a Jeweller*)
Blaisot	(*a Farm Boy*)
Picard	(*Servant to Madame Bonbon*)
Hotense de Belleterre	(*Daughter of the Marquis*) Miss Bickerstaff
Madame de Bonbon..	(*a Rich Widow*) Mrs. Barsby
Justine	(*Waiting Maid to Madame Bonbon*) Miss Palmer

Between the two Pieces Miss HARLOW, Pupil of Sig. Garcia, will give a selection of Songs.

To conclude with the Comic Drama entitled,—

"A BACHELOR OF ARTS."

By Members of the De Trafford Club.

Harry Jasper	
Mr. Andrew Wylie	
Mr. Thornton	
Adolphus	
Frederick Adderley	
Matthew	
Servants	
Mrs. Thornton	Mrs. Barsby
Emma Thornton	Miss Bickerstaff

Tickets: Front Seats, 5s.; Second Seats, 2s. 6d.; may be purchased from Members of the Club, and of the Executive Committee of the Schools.

All Seats being reserved and numbered, the tickets may be exchanged for vouchers at the offices of John Duffield, Esq., Essex Chambers, Essex Street, where the plan of the Hall may be seen. Front Seat Tickets may be reserved at once; Second Seats on and after Thursday, the 19th January.

Curtain will rise promptly at Seven o'clock: Carriages may be ordered for Half-past Ten.

The Club will be assisted on the Evening by an Efficient Amateur Orchestra, under the leadership of Daniel Ashton, Esq.

The Stage, Fittings, & Scenery by Messrs. Tyrer & Co.

All communications relative to Advertisements are to be addressed, and Post Office Orders made payable to, "Mr. THOMAS POWELL, 39, Blackfriars Street, Manchester," who is sole contractor for the Advertising space.

Printed by JOHN HEYWOOD, of the Grange, Derbyshire Lane, Stretford, at the Excelsior Printing Works, Hulme Hall Road, and Published by him at 141 and 143, Deansgate, Manchester—Saturday, January 14, 1870.

EXTRACTED FROM THE CHOICEST ROSE LEAVES.

EXTRACTED FROM THE CHOICEST ROSE LEAVES.

STRENGTHENS AND IMPARTS A GLOSS TO THE HAIR,
(Without the use of Pomades or Oil)

REMOVES SCURF AND PREVENTS BALDNESS;
Even restoring the growth in many cases which appear hopeless. Sold in Bottles, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 5s. each, by Chemists.

WILLIAM MATHER,
14, BATH STREET, NEWGATE STREET, LONDON, E.C.;
19, HANGING DITCH, MANCHESTER.
109, CHESTER ROAD, HULME, MANCHESTER.

MANUFACTORY:—TRENTHAM STREET, HULME, MANCHESTER.

SCIENCE LECTURES FOR THE PEOPLE.

(SECOND SERIES.)

Delivered in the Hulme Town Hall, Manchester, on Nov. 4th, 9th, 16th, 23rd, & 30th.

I.

CORAL AND CORAL REEFS.

BY PROFESSOR HUXLEY, L.L.D., F.R.S.

REVISED BY HIMSELF

II.

SPECTRUM ANALYSIS.

BY PROFESSOR ROSCOE, F.R.S.

REVISED BY HIMSELF.

III.

SPECTRUM ANALYSIS IN ITS APPLICATION TO THE HEAVENLY BODIES;

A LECTURE ON THE CHEMISTRY OF THE SUN AND STARS.

BY DR. HUGGINS, F.R.S.

REVISED BY HIMSELF.

IV.

OUR COAL FIELDS.

BY W. BOYD DAWKINS, ESQ., F.R.S.

V.

CHARLES DICKENS.

BY PROFESSOR A. W. WARD.

Price One Penny. In an Illuminated Cover, Sixpence.

THEATRE ROYAL, MANCHESTER.

EVERY EVENING, AT SEVEN O'CLOCK,

THE ENTIRELY NEW AND ORIGINAL GRAND COMIC PANTOMIME,

HARLEQUIN

DICK WHITTINGTON

AND HIS TREASURE OF A CAT!

Written expressly for the Theatre Royal, Manchester, by J. STRACHAN, Author of "Sindbad the Sailer," &c., &c., &c.

Hugliosalstik .....(*A black-art-ish* character, quite as bad as his name bespeaks him).....Mr. C. COOPER
Gambogia.....(An *ochre-ish* individual, of limited proportions—known in certain circles as the *Yellow Dwarf*! But hush).....Mr. DAMPIER
Cupid....(The beau (arrows and quiver included) *for* the ladies, making many *hits* among the *misses*; afterwards changed into a "*love* of a cat.").....Miss A. SAEGERT
Eglantina.....(Queen of the particular tribe of Fairies enlisted in Whittington's cause).....Miss F. BENNETT
Dick Whittington.....(A rising youth, of whom description is unnecessary).....Miss E. D'ESTE
Bobby Neverswet.....(Dick's fellow apprentice—an unformidable rival).....Mr. H. TAYLOR
Alderman Fitzwarrenne.....(A *more* than *common counsellor*; merchant of the City of London, and master of Dick and Bobby).....Mr. R. ATKINSON
Alice.....(His only daughter, "an uncommon nice young girl," young Dick's darling).....Miss KERMINI
Dame Griddlechop.....(Housekeeper to the alderman, and aunt to Bobby).....Mr. GOODING
Jem Sacktill, Bill Keepitup, Tom Goitboys.....(Roystering apprentices, Bobby's companions)
Alec-Skyeblew.....(An early milkman).....Mr. NEWLAND
Captain Jack Bower.....(A true blue and elegant skipper).....Miss EVAH HAMILTON
Tackling, Ropesend, Masthead, Binnacle, Windlass.....(Members of Captain Bower's shipping company unlimited.)
The Cat.....(A *puss*-itive gain to Dick Whittington).....YOUNG AMERICA
Rodentia.....(King of the rats).....M. VAN DE VELDE
Veri Hi Kokilaurum.....(Emperor of Morocco, troubled with rats).....Mr. F. BARSBY
The Empress Salee Komup.....(The Imperial Consort, also very much troubled).....Mrs. BICKERSTAFFE
Princess Brighteyes.....(Their only cheeild, sought by the ungallant Dwarf, and found by the gallant Captain).....Miss JENNY TAYLOR
Baboo Ketchup Plunderten.....(Chief cook and bottle-washer to H.I.M.).....Mr. A. BRUCE
Orflibique, Skwintise, Larkyun, Brudaboans.....(Slightly attached to the Court of Morocco.)
Beauteous Amazons.....(With lovely but unpronounceable names).....By a Numerous CORPS de BALLET
The Yellow Guards.....(Equally beauteous, and equally fortunate as to their incognomens).....By Another Equally Numerous CORPS de BALLET
The Dog.....(A native of *Bark*-shire, but settled in *double* 'un).....Masters WAGTAIL and BARKER
Zoological Curiosities, Familiars, Unfamiliars, Cupids, Members of Incorporated Guilds and other questionable Benefit Clubs, Imperial Troops, Interested Crowds, &c.

The PANTOMIME written by Mr. JOHN STRACHAN. The SCENERY designed by Mr. F. CHESTER. The MUSIC composed and arranged by Mr. AUDIBERT.
The WATTEAU SCENE by Mr. FINLAY. The SCENERY by Messrs. C. BREW, C. SMITHERS, MUIR, FINLAY, W. TELBIN, and W. TELBIN, Junior.
The TRANSFORMATION SCENES by Mr. CHARLES BREW and Mr. SMITHERS. The MACHINERY by Mr. H. BRÉCKELL, Mr. SUTHERLAND, and Assistants.
The PROPERTIES and APPOINTMENTS by Mr. J. BRUNTON, Mr. D. NEWLAND, Mr. J. GILLISON. &c.
The DANCES arranged by Mons. DESPLACES, of the Royal Italian Opera, and Mr. W. WAITE. The COSTUMES by Mrs. JAMES, of the Royal Italian Opera, Messrs. AUGUSTE and Cie., London and Paris, and Mrs. NORMAN. STAGE MANAGER.....Mr. BURKINSHAW.

SCENERY, INCIDENTS, &c.

THE WIZARD'S EYRIE.

(C. SMITHERS.)

(Somewhere near Van Demon's Land)—The Enchanter and the *diminutive yellow-boy*, a *little sufferin'*—Hugliosalstik's prescription—The Secret Treaty—Cupid, king of hearts, a *trump card*.

FAIRY GARDEN, A LA WATTEAU.

(FINLAY.)

The fairies' assembly-rooms and nightly quadrille party—Cupid *linked* with the *catty-nation*, being changed to a pretty pussy, who departs to share Whittington's fortunes.

GRAND WATTEAU BALLET:

Mr. W. WAITE, Miss FANNY BROWN, &c., &c.

MILESTONE LANE, HOLLOWAY.

(C. BREW.)

The runaway Apprentice, and his Midsummer Night's Dream.

THE ALDERMAN'S SHOP IN EASTCHEAP.

(C. BREW.)

"Early in the morning"—The dame opens out on Dick, and the boys open out the shop—P-r-r-retty Alice and p-r-r-retty Dick—Counter attractions—The "tableau of industry," over the left—The triumph of force over the right—The apprentices bound to the sea.

CLOUDLAND.

Hugliosalstik raising the wind—The elements! The storm
The wreck!!!

THE RAFT.

(W. TELBIN, Jun.)

Safety of Dick, Captain Bower, and the Cat.

COURT OF THE EMPEROR'S PALACE, MOROCCO.

(W. TELBIN, Jun.)

The "Adventures of Whittington and his Cat," half-bound in Morocco—Gambogia's suit not of a good standing colour—It won't wash—Muster of the Amazons—The Yellow Guard *mustered*—Grand *assault*, and general *peppering*.

THE ENCHANTER'S CASTLE.

(W. TELBIN, SEN.)

The Dwarf a *double Glo'ster*, yet not quite the *cheese*—The compact broken—The Emperor's *authority* powerless against Hugliosalstik's rain.

ALHAMBRA INTERIOR IN THE IMPERIAL PALACE.

(W. MUIR.)

The happy return, and general distribution of rewards. The Cat and the Rat King!

LONDON STREET IN YE OLDEN TIME.

(C. BREW.)

YE LORD MAYOR'S SHOWE.

Trumpeters, Heralds, City Marshal, Civic Guard, Banners of the Trades' Companies, Morrice Dancers, Trades' Emblems, Knights in Armour, Gog and Magog, Pageant of the Four Seasons, Pageant of Britannia and the Four Quarters of the Globe, Lord Mayor's Coach, City Dignitaries, Henchmen, Footmen, &c., &c., &c.

EASTCHEAP AGAIN.

(C. BREW.)

The Yellow Dwarf changed to a Bobby—Bobby changed to a nobby swell—The Alderman changed for the worse—Dick and Alice unchanged—Attempted exchanges defeated—All changed by the Fairy Queen.

GARDENS OF THE HESPERIDES.

Fruits and Flowers.—C. BREW.

THE DRESSING OF THE TABLES FOR

THE LORD MAYOR'S BANQUET.

(C. SMITHERS.)

TRANSFORMATION.

Harlequin—Mr. W. WAITE. Columbine—Miss FANNY BROWN. Pantaloon—Mr. W. PARKER. Sprite—M. VAN DE VELDE. Clown—Mr. NICOLO DECLIX.

NEW THAMES EMBANKMENT & HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.

(W. TELBIN, Sen.)

Sewing machines—Clown takes an elevated view of things in general.

MUSIC SHOP AND NATIONAL SCHOOL.—(W. MUIR.)

Education for the million—A real German Defeat.

DECK OF THE "VICTORIA" MAN-ON-WAR. BRITANNIA RULES THE WAVES.

MORNING PERFORMANCES commencing at **HALF-PAST ONE** o'clock on **Saturday, January 14th, Tuesday 17th, Wednesday 18th, Thursday 19th, and Saturday 21st.**

SEWING MACHINES.—THE GREATEST VARIETY OF THE BEST CLASS AT REDUCED PRICES.
SEWING SILKS, THREADS, COTTON, NEEDLE, OIL, AND EVERY REQUISITE FOR SEWING MACHINES. REPAIRS PROMPTLY EXECUTED.
J. HOLROYD, PRACTICAL MACHINIST, 159, GREAT JACKSON STREET, HULME.

J. C. EDWARDS, TOBACCONIST, &C., Manufacturer of the Piccadilly Smoking Mixture. Importer of Foreign Cigars, Meerschaum and Briar Root Pipes. 107, PICCADILLY.